FBIS DAILY REPORT

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IACCP CHARGES C.A. SUBVERSION HAS FOREIGN ROOTS

PA031450 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 2 Mar 82 pp A-1, A-12

[San Jose declaration issued by the Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production in Costa Rica on 19 February 1982 -- capitalization denotes uppercase as published]

[Text] The National Central American branches of the Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production (IACCP) presented the following considerations to the Latin American businessmen who met in San Jose for a special IACCP meeting:

1. During the past few decades, Central America has achieved within its relative development evident economic and social progress. This progress was boosted to a great extent by the personal effort and tenacity of thousands of Central American businessmen who gave so much that it multiplied the effect on employment, salaries and well-being.

2. Therefore, it is not right to blame the region's political agitation and violence solely on internal economic factors. Subversion and terrorism have foreign roots. They are promoted by the communist regimes of the Soviet Union and Cuba that are trying to destabilize the region for ideological reasons.

3. Some international pressure groups and news media are also responsible for this situation. They misinform the international public, in good or bad faith, and distort the Central American situation. These groups are contributing with their rhetoric and falsehoods to subject more than 20 million Central Americans to dictatorships and permanent poverty.

4. The Central American problem is not an isolated case of a single region of the continent but just another setting for the conflict between totalitarianism and freedom.

5. The Central American nations have -- just as any other single independent nation -- the inalienable right to solve their political and social problems through a path of freedom and democracy. This has always been the ideal of the great Latin American project and the dream of our forefathers. It is also our dream. Peace and prosperity have always been a result of individual freedom; they have never stemmed from absolute solutions or the intervention of the states in the people's economic lives.

Therefore:

A. The Central American businessmen issue a call to all the governments of the continent to undertake the necessary political action to support the efforts of the men who are struggling for a system of life in which the basic individual rights are respected.

B. They also urge the businessmen of this continent to remain vigilant and solidarity with the peoples of Central America who are torn apart by the scourge of Marxist totalitarianism.

The special IACCP meeting heard with deep concern the explanations of its national branches and, based on this, the businessmen of this continent:

EXPRESS their profound and sincere faith in democracy as a system of life that goes beyond political guidelines since it involves guarantees, rights and behaviors that are in line with man's most valued aspirations in his battles throughout the centuries to uphold dignity and freedom within the economic, social and political structures that characterize a pluralist society.

STRESS their total rejection of the obvious attempt to destabilize their countries with the material and technological support of countries such as the USSR and Cuba, which seek to impose repressive regimes at any cost on lives and property in an effort to subject the peoples to the plans of the political elites of totalitarian blocs.

DEMAND that the nations of the free world give their active and unconditional support through economic and political cooperation in order to strengthen the democratic structures of the Central American nations, confront those who have unleashed the worst fraticidal struggle and take the road of stability, economic progress, justice and freedom.

PROMISE to carry out a coherent and intense campaign to explain the Central American situation and make the decision-makers of the world's democratic countries and the general public aware of the truth of the tragic incidents that are occurring in Central America. We also want to make them aware of the goals of those who have opted for terrorism and violence and the specific dangers that threaten not only Central America but Latin America, the Caribbean and the industrialized nations that have pluralist societies.

SUPPORT the decision of Latin American businessmen in general and those of Central America in particular to remain in their countries and continue helping the economic and social development of their people.

PROCLAIM that their most immediate and necessary task is to strengthen the ties of solidarity between the businessmen of the continent as the best defensive tool for the free enterprise system and the sovereignty of nations.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON MEETING WITH ENDERS

PY090111 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2212 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- Shortly before leaving San Martin Palace, Foreign Minister Costa Mendez has said that he had discussed "bilateral relations and the situation in the hemisphere" with U.S. Assistance Secretary of State Thomas Enders. He said: "We could term our bilateral relations good. There are both areas of agreement and disagreement but there is good disposition toward overcoming disagreements." It has been reported at the Foreign Ministry that Costa Mendez is going to Government House to meet with President Leopoldo Galtieri.

CHILE'S RESTRICTION ON FIREFIGHTING PLANE UPSETTING

PY070213 Paris AFP in Spanish 1536 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (AFP) -- An Argentine Foreign Ministry spokesman has revealed here on Friday the existing concern over the attitude of the Chilean authorities, who, according to the spokesman, prevented an Argentine firefighting plane from filling up with water in Chilean lakes. The San Martin Palace spokesman explained that this plane, permanently based in the tourist city of Bariloche -- in Rio Negro Province, 1,008 km from here -- was going to territory belonging to Santa Cruz Province, in the extreme south, because of a forest fire. The fire, which broke out in Chilean territory, spread rapidly and threatened the Argentine town of Rio Turbio. The spokesman said that the aircraft had trouble in doing its job due to the bureaucratic requirements imposed on it in Chilean territory.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT TO OBSERVE SALVADORAN ELECTIONS

PY071939 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2230 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA) -- Dr Jorge Marandina, a member of the National Board of the Christian Democratic Party, will attend as an observer the elections that will be held on 28 March in El Salvador. Marandino's trip is in response to an invitation from the Christian Democratic Party of that convulsing Central American country. The decision was made this afternoon at a meeting of the National Board of the Argentine Christian Democratic Party in this capital. On that occasion two communiques referring to the prevailing situations in El Salvador and Guatemala were released.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON CONSTITUTIONAL SOLUTION

PY090230 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0323 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Mendoza, 8 Mar (NA) -- Interior Minister Alfredo Saint Jean has stated that the military authorities are not "sliding down on a greased toboggan" but [are moving] "along a horizontal plane at a pace which is considered adequate since the country has been gaining sufficient experience and it is ever closer to a constitutional solution." The minister said that it was not possible to repeat the experience of "jumping into a vacuum with the deplorable results of the past," but that it was possible "to even accelerate the process, provided there are manifestations that we are firmly heading toward a democratic solution."

The interior minister told the newspaper LOS ANDES that the country is in a difficult economic situation, but that he does not believe that such a circumstance can be a definite obstacle to the installation of a political system in line with the aspirations of the national reorganization process. Saint Jean dismissed the possibility that an adequate solution can be achieved through a single party and made a call to seek definitive institutionalization through the action in solidarity of all sectors within the framework of a political statute that "will offer guidance rather than rigid norms, except for those who participated in subversion."

Saint Jean said that in his view the country "has made progress politically since 1976," and that in the present stage the process "cannot limit itself to merely administrative actions." He then added that "logically, the politicians are better prepared for politics than the military."

MINISTERS MEET TO DISCUSS 'INTERNAL SECURITY'

PY090217 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0057 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- The mobilization plan ordered by the General Labor Confederation (CGT) and the National Workers Committee (CNT) has prompted a meeting which was chaired tonight by Interior Minister Alfredo Saint Jean at Government House to evaluate the situation and to adopt the appropriate security measures. The meeting, which was held at the office of the interior minister, began at 1810 and was attended by Brig Gen Julio Porcile, the labor minister; Gen Santiago Martella, chief of the federal police; and by Gen Alfredo Sotera, security chief of the army commander in chief.

When the meeting ended at 2030 it was noted that an official communique would be issued to report on the subjects discussed at the meeting but it was Col Bernardo Menendez, under secretary for institutional affairs of the Interior Ministry, who a few minutes later released the appropriate information. After releasing the names of the officials who attended the meeting, he said that "internal security issues in relation to the labor sector had been discussed." This verbal statement is out of keeping with the standard procedure of releasing a communique on meetings where internal security issues are discussed.

UNIONS TO COORDINATE ACTIONS WITH PARTIES

PY050211 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0050 GMT 25 Feb 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Feb (NA) -- The General Labor Confederation (CGT), leaders of the Peronist Party and of the 62 organizations today agreed to adopt a common strategy in order to coordinate their mobilization plans with those of the Multiparty Group.

In keeping with this strategy, the CGT also decided to promote the unification of the workers' movement through formal contacts with the intersectoral organization CNT-20 [National Workers Committee] which, together with the CGT, is leading the workers movement. This announcement was made by CGT Secretary General Saul Ubaldini after a meeting -- which lasted almost 2 hours -- of top CGT leaders, the National Justicialist Council and the 62 organizations.

Justicialist Party First Vice President Deolindo Bittel participated in the meeting after holding a talk in a downtown office with Lorenzo Miguel, former secretary general of the Metallurgical Union and leader of the 62 organizations.

Ubaldini confirmed that top CGT leaders will meet with the Multiparty Group's Permanent Political Board tomorrow afternoon and that they will hold the meeting "with the purpose of coordinating our mobilization plans" with the plans of the Multiparty Group.

However, he warned that "there is a political time and a different socioeconomic time," remarking that "both politicians and union members strive for the same ideal: the well-being of the people." He refused to make any comments as to whether the CGT would join the Multiparty Group together with the Intersectoral Organization CNT-20, pointing out that "such a thing should be decided by the politicians," but asked by reporters he said: "We have already made a public call to all union secretaries, either from the CGT or from any other sector."

When asked again about the unification of the workers movement, Ubaldini answered: "We will send (to the CNT-20) a note or a communication in order to discuss the issue." He said that the transformation of the Multiparty Group into a multisectoral group "would be the ideal case, the most correct thing to do," and he announced that "in the near future the CGT will issue a document with a summary of the agreements concluded with other organizations." In this respect, Ubaldini reported that the CGT will start a series of contacts with student and business organizations next week.

PERONIST YOUTH SUPPORT CGT; CNT-20 BACKS UNITY

PY072237 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 7 Mar 82 p 9

[Text] (NA) -- While Peronist youth branches throughout greater Buenos Aires announced their decision yesterday to "lend (their) active support to a workers' mobilization called by the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) at its last assembly," CNT-20 grouping leader Jorge Triaca said in the city of Mendoza that "faced with a country which is going through a severe state of emergency, we will seek to find points of agreement with other labor organizations", and workers from four different unions decided in Cordoba to give their backing to the CGT decision. In their statement, the Peronist youth movement pointed out that "The nation is going through one of its most critical times in history," adding that "the so-called national reorganization process launched six years ago, has revealed its basic objective, which are none other than the curtailment of the will of the people, the destruction of its most representative organizations, the killing off of its productive system and its wealth."

"The Peronist youth", the statement goes on to say, "despite the infamous decree through which they have attempted to ban us, has managed to continue on the road marked by General Juan D. Peron, as well as to organize new sectors in the service of the justicialist revolution."

Statements made by Triaca during the Mendoza Nihuil radio programme "Sepalo" (Know It!) were seen by observers as a clear allusion to an eventual move to closer relations between the CNT-20 and the CGT. Triaca, whose labor movement recently formally waved its own part in the political dialogue with the government, said that "what matters is not so much who gets to head the labor movement but how to correctly interpret the workers' needs." The CNT-20 leader severely criticized the government's attitude towards labor, "by keeping unions' activity in hibernation and political parties banned."

"This situation", he said, "has led leaders of various sectors from coming to an agreement on how to get down to unification into one labor movement." Pointing out that while a political dialogue between the government and political parties was a way to "obtain benefits and compensation for the workers, the arrogance (shown) by (those) who have once again taken over the Economy Ministry, cuts all possibilities to establish a dialogue."

BRIEFS

NATIONAL PRODUCTION DECLINE -- (NA) -- The gross domestic product fell 6.1 percent and industrial production 16.2 percent last year, according to an unofficial Central Bank report due to be published this week. Activity in the building sector dropped 5.5 percent last year, but agricultural activity rose three percent. Individual incomes last year were 8.6 percent below their 1977 average level. This drop is even larger if calculated on the industrial product, in which case wages are 25.3 percent below their 1977 level. Government sources believe that the gross domestic product will show a drop of between 2 and 3 percent during the first quarter of 1982. [Text] [Buenos Aires HERALD in English 8 Mar 82 p 9 PY]

USSR AMBASSADOR OFFERS AID PACKAGE TO PRESIDENT

PY051543 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The government of the Soviet Union has promised technical, cultural, scientific and industrial aid to this country. USSR Ambassador Sergey Kovalev had a protocol meeting yesterday with President Celso Torrelio. The Soviet ambassador expressed the intention of the government and people of his country to give technical assistance with modern technology, basically in the mining area. After his meeting with the president Mr Kovalev explained the following to the newsmen:

[Begin recording] [Question] In the mining area I would like to know the latest news you have regarding the La Palca plant at Potosi.

[Answer -- in Russian followed by Spanish translation] La Palca has no problems. The plant is now operating and will be handed over in the near future. [end recording]

CENTRAL BANK ISSUES REPORT ON GOLD RESERVES

PY041432 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Excerpts] The Bolivian Central Bank has reported its possession of gold in view of press reports published last Sunday saying that the gold reserves of the country should total 42 tons. The detailed report on the bank's possession of gold shows the following: 2,316 gold ingots with a total weight of 23,115 kg in the vaults of the bank; gold quota at the International Monetary Fund amounting to 71,430.1 troy ounces equivalent to 2,221 kg; and at the Federal Reserve Bank, New York, the equivalent of 39,806 troy ounces or 1,238 kg. These amounts make a total of 26,574 kg, as stated in the communique released by the Central Bank, with due authorization by Finance Minister Alcoreza Melgarejo.

IMF FINDS NATION'S ECONOMY 'BASICALLY SOUND'

PY051536 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The economy of the nation is basically sound and very good in the opinion of Juan Carlos Iareza, regional director of the International Monetary Fund [IMF], according to statements made yesterday. The IMF is willing to provide the aid which all member-countries need, he added during an interview. Iareza pointed out, however, that there are some short-term difficulties in the Bolivian economy, but he considered that the country has enormous potential and can overcome this stage. He further stated that the IMF has not exerted any kind of imposition on the Bolivian Government to take economic measures. In this connection he maintained that the countries themselves make their sovereign decisions. He then said that if the Bolivian Government requires stand-by credit, the IMF is always ready to facilitate financing for member-countries.

He concluded by saying that there are no recommendations, particularly not in the case of Bolivia, to adopt the floating dollar exchange rate system.

BRIEFS

YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION -- The La Paz health unit has released a communique recommending that persons who plan to travel to Nor Yungas, Sur Yungas, Larecaja, Ballivian and Franz Ramayo Provinces in the tropical part of La Paz Department be vaccinated against yellow fever. [La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Mar 82 PY]

CANADIAN SECRETARY OF STATE ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PY090212 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Excerpt] After receiving Niteroi Prefect (Wellington Moreira Franco) President Joao Figueiredo received Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro. According to information disclosed by Itamaraty today, President Joao Figueiredo will visit Canada between 19 and 21 July in response to an invitation extended by Canadian Governor General Edward Schreyer. During his visit the president of the republic will continue the contacts being maintained between the two countries, which greatly benefited from the visit Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau paid to Brazil in 1981.

Commerce Minister Edward Lumley visited Brazel in December 1981 and Communications Minister Francis Fox in February. Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan arrived in Brasilia for a 6-day visit to Brazil. He was met at the air base by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro. From the base MacGuigan went directly to Itamaraty for a work meeting.

PRC FOREIGN TRADE VICE MINISTER VISITING

PY090202 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Today in Brasilia at the opening of the second meeting of the joint Brazilian-PRC trade commission PRC Foreign Trade Vice Minister Lu Xuzhang stated that the Brazilian people, headed by President Figueiredo, are continuously achieving success in the defense of national sovereignty and for the development of their own country.

Lu Xuzhang is visiting Brazil in response to a government invitation and heads a PRC trade delegation.

In referring to the objectives of the second Brazilian-PRC trade meeting, the PRC foreign trade vice minister stated that he is convinced that a continuous exchange of opinions and information between Brazil and the PRC will positively contribute to trade exchange and cooperation between the two countries. In a speech made at the opening of the meeting Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro voices his confidence that the meetings he will hold with PRC authorities during the visit he will make to the PRC at the end of the month will contribute to create new prospects for cooperation between the two countries.

DAILY SAYS GENERAL MCENERY'S TOUR 'NO COINCIDENCE'

PY081412 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Mar 82 p 7

[Article by Newton Carlos]

[Excerpts] The Latin American tour of the chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board, a U.S. general, at a time when the Central American crisis is worsening and crucial decisions must be made regarding this crisis, is no mere coincidence. The board, a Washington-based body, has a dream, which is to acquire "institutional status" by becoming part of the inter-American system through its inclusion in the OAS Charter. The board's legal standing is precarious, its validity must be renewed periodically, it has no clearly established legal powers and thus it merely vegetates, restricting itself to making plans and trying to survive as a regional remnant from the times of the cold war.

The core of the dream is a project: that of becoming the general staff of a continental "peace force" ready to intervene in "conflict situations" such as that in El Salvador. General McEnery's tour encompassing Paraguay, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil is aimed at "resurrecting" the Inter-American Defense Board, which has been somewhat forgotten along with old dreams and projects. McEnery's statement in Buenos Aires to the effect that "for the time being" his board of generals is not involved in Central America, is highly significant. Some of the elements of the board's project are known. The idea is to get OAS member-countries to place at the disposal of a "peace army" a given number of troops, aircraft and warships in addition to equipment and funds to operate in "emergency situations." Thus, the entire regional cold war arsenal which had apparently been filed away is being reactivated by the Reagan administration.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO U.S.

PY081813 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 7 Mar 82 p 12

[Excerpt] Brasilia, (O GLOBO) -- Speaking about the significance of President Figueiredo's upcoming trip to Washington, Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro has stated that personal contacts are irreplaceable in preventing normal relationship problems from "souring" the political atmosphere by becoming artificial sources of friction.

Regarding Brazilian-U.S. relations he mentioned U.S. protectionism which hampers the entry of Brazilian products into that country, differences of political stance at the international level, the problems which have been precluding the negotiation of the new aeronautics accord and the deadlock created by the U.S. law on supplying enriched uranium for the Angra 1 nuclear powerplant.

He said: Do not be deceived by these negative aspects. Generally speaking relations are quite good. I believe that the two presidents will not be interested in discussing these issues and will use the opportunity afforded by direct contacts to make the relationship more flexible and mature along with creating an atmosphere of trust and understanding capable of preventing further problems.

Guerreiro does not accept the charges of protectionism which have been made against Brazil regarding its imports from developed countries.

He stated that it is obvious that a developing nation must preserve its domestic market for its own industries or they will never have a chance to develop. During the 19th century, while Brazil was opening its doors for European manufacturers, the United States was levying extremely high taxes to protect national products.

Developed countries are complaining that there are 26 million unemployed in Western Europe and the United States. Guerreiro said, however, that these millions could well be employed to turn out goods and equipment for underdeveloped countries if the wealthy nations decided to implement measures aimed at activating Third World economies.

Brazil could import a great deal more if its economy were strong enough to finance the orders. We are not protectionistic by nature but out of shear need, the minister said.

As to the aeronautic accord between Brazil and the United States, Guerreiro stated that the basic claim is better control of the number of air companies which cover the various routes, thus preventing "charter" [given in English] flights from harming the interests of Varig, the only Brazilian international air company. He said that it is possible that no agreement will be reached by 5 May, the deadline for the period during which the accord can be renounced.

In mid-February Brazil sent a specific and detailed proposal to the Americans and we are awaiting their answer. At the negotiating table we have received proposals to either freeze the current accord for a longer period of time or to implement a temporary arrangement until the close of negotiations. I see no great problems which could prevent the United States from accepting our proposal because its terms are similar to those of aeronautic accords we have signed with a great many countries. The accord with the Americans was out of keeping with current conditions since it was signed in 1946 when it took 40 hours to fly from Rio de Janeiro to New York, a flight which now takes barely 8 hours.

On the economic aid to Central America and the Caribbean, Guerreiro said that the Brazilian Government has yet to conclude its evaluation of the effect which it will have on Brazilian exports.

Some products are bound to be harmed, sugar for example, but compensatory rights, guaranteed prices for products and other protectionist measures implemented by the U.S. Government, are much greater obstacles for our foreign trade, he said.

Guerreiro denied that there are disagreements with the United States and Argentina over the Brazilian stance toward El Salvador.

According to Guerreiro, constituted governments such as the Sandinist government or Napoleon Duarte's administration are entitled to ask for aid from friendly countries, even military aid.

"The intolerable thing is that other governments come to the aid of subversives who are trying to overthrow an internationally acknowledged government. We cannot mistake a liberation movement which is struggling against a colonial regime, as in the case of Namibia, for the situation in El Salvador. These are principles of international law which must be complied with in every case. Whether we are satisfied with a given type of government in one country or another is something else again. Brazil certainly cannot change the guidelines of its international stance in order to side with a given situation which pleases us most."

He said: "There are differences in political nuances, but I cannot accept criticism to the effect that our position is ambiguous. I believe that we have made our defense of self-determination and our condemnation of any kind of interventionism very clear.

He reaffirmed that he does not fear a direct U.S. intervention in Central America or the Caribbean and expressed his belief that the fact that the U.S. Government is concerned over the economic aspect of the regional crisis, is a positive sign.

He added: We have always said that the situation has structural causes which must be resolved before lasting peace can be attained in that area.

U.S. TRADE POLICY FOR CARIBBEAN WORRIES BRAZIL

PY081835 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRAZIL in Portuguese 5 Mar 82 p 17

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Ernane Galveas stated yesterday that the Brazilian Government is concerned over the current U.S. trade policy toward Central American countries, a policy which could damage the national interests. According to Galveas, the incentives to exports of Caribbean countries as a means of containing their domestic political pressures could have a negative impact on the Brazilian northeastern region and damage our sugar exports. This will be "the third blow to the same product," he stated, and added that France and other European countries have already overtaxed Brazilian sugar. "We do not yet know which solution, but we will find one," he stated.

During a press conference the minister admitted that the numbers to be published on the growth of the gross domestic product last year will be different from those he announced in December, when he predicted an increase of 3.2 percent, against a prediction of negative growth of 3.5 percent by the Getulio Vargas Foundation. His estimate was based on the work of a technical team at the Finance Ministry.

ARMY COMMANDER ON THREATS OF ELECTORAL SABOTAGE

PA062127 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1446 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota, 4 Mar (EFE) -- The guerrilla organizations' threats that they will sabotage the 14 March elections do not frighten the Colombian military forces, Gen Jose Gonzalo Forero Delgadillo has said. Commenting on the 19 April Movement's threats that it will hinder the elections for representatives to the public corporations, the army commander added that "a forewarned soldier does not die in war." According to Forero Delgadillo, the heads of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia want to back the lists of candidates of the Communist Party's [word indistinct] corps. This backing, however, is accompanied by acts of sabotage against the present campaign, a situation that does not endanger the elections, the military officer added. Forero Delgadillo reaffirmed that the national government is in a position to guarantee the next elections because the troops are on the alert against any public disturbance in order to control it.

NEWSWOMAN DELIVERS M-19 MESSAGE ON ELECTIONS

PA050200 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota -- An alleged message in which the outlawed 19 April Movement, M-19, gives its latest decision on the elections was delivered to the peace committee yesterday by newswoman Maria Jimena Duzan. The newswoman, who was kidnapped by alleged members of the guerrilla movement in Bogota on Tuesday, reappeared yesterday at the installations of the newspaper EL ESPECTADOR where she works. It was reported that she had a message for the members of the peace committee from Jaime Bateman Cayon, Ivan Marino Ospina and (Oti Patino), top leaders of the guerrilla group. Although the newswoman has not issued a public statement, it has been learned that she was taken to areas of Caqueta and other areas where the M-19 has been operating. It was reported that she met on Wednesday with some members of the peace committee to whom she delivered the document sent by the leadership of the extremist movement and in which it presumably calls for a direct dialogue to obtain the guerrillas' reincorporation into civilian life. Maria Jimena Duzan was held by the alleged M-19 members for 9 days, the longest a reporter has been held by the group.

M-19 LEADER ARGUES IT DOES NOT DEPEND ON CUBA

PA082347 Paris AFP in Spanish 1558 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota, 8 Mar (AFP) -- A leader of the Colombian 19 April Movement (M-19) said today that they do not depend on the Cuban regime for their revolution or for their financial resources. However, he admitted that the M-19 does admire the Cuban regime. "We do admire revolutionary Cuba and accept its teachings, but we are not dependent on them," M-19 Deputy Commander Ivan Marino Ospina told EL ESPECTADOR reporter Maria Jimena Duzan.

"We do not depend on them because we are serious and independent enough to offer our own proposals and solutions to the people of Colombia," the guerrilla leader said.

He did admit, however, that Latin American guerrillas have accepted the "collaboration" and "example" of Cuba for their revolutionary struggle and he explained that this is "what really hurts imperialism."

Top M-19 leader Jaime Bateman Cayon told the same reporter that "Cuba does not have a policy of meddling in other country's internal affairs." This statement was meant to dismiss accusations of Cuban intervention in the affairs of Colombia and other Caribbean and Central American countries. Bateman Cayon denied reports that Cuba supplies weapons to Latin American guerrilla groups. He accused the United States of trying to create enmity between Fidel Castro's government and the governments of other Latin American nations. The subversive leader did admit, however, that his group's most recently acquired weapons were purchased in Portugal.

FARC LEADER KILLED IN CLASH WITH ARMY PATROL

PA052255 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2001 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Tunja, Colombia, 5 Mar (EFE) -- Guerrilla leader Jorge Enrique Perilla, alias "Emilio," was killed 5 March during a clash with an army patrol, according to the military brigade stationed in Tunja. The armed clash took place in the rural sector of the Chiquinquira district when the troops detected a guerrilla group.

A military spokesman reported that Perilla headed the "Ciro Trujillo Castano" column of the 10th front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia" (FARC).

The regular troops confiscated several automatic weapons and fatigues left behind by the guerrilla leader's group during their hasty retreat.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CLOSED DUE TO DISORDERS

PA050245 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota -- The Council of Deans of the national university has ordered the indefinite closing of the university due to the serious disturbances that have occurred there. The measure seeks to prevent actions that could cause more damage.

[Begin recording of unidentified official] In view of the serious acts of violence which have occurred on the university campus, the Council of Deans has decided to suspend all teaching activities as of today in order to prevent more serious actions and to protect lives and property in the university. The resuming of classes will be announced in due time. Only teaching and administrative personnel will be permitted access into the campus.

[Signed] [Name indistinct], secretary general, 4 March 1982. [end recording]

As a result of this action, the country's main university center will be closed when the 14 March elections are held throughout the country.

100 MILITARY OBSERVERS FOR ELECTIONS APPOINTED

PA071950 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1559 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota, 6 Mar (EFE) -- The Colombian Government has appointed 100 military observers who will safeguard on behalf of the president the development of the upcoming 14 March elections in the country. According to an official provision, the military will guarantee the free right of suffrage for all citizens and the purity of the elections in coordination with the presidential delegates. This is the first time in Colombia that [words indistinct] military observers for the elections.

Colombian electors will vote on 14 March for representatives to the Senate, House of Representatives, Department Assemblies and Municipal Councils. Two months later they will return to the polls to elect the President of Colombia.

FOREIGN MINISTER WANTS L.A. ANTITERRORIST BLOC

PY052243 Paris AFP in Spanish 0403 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 4 Mar (AFP) -- Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella suggested today the formation of an antiterrorist bloc among Latin American countries under rightist regimes with experience in coping with subversion. The foreign minister raised this idea in Iquitos, on the banks of the Amazon River, where he went to tell the people about the signing of a customs agreement with Colombia which will facilitate trade in Peruvian wood. Asked about the events in Ayacucho, southeastern Andean region of the country, where a prison was attacked on Wednesday morning, yesterday, by armed persons called terrorists and who freed several extremists from the prision, Arias Stella stated that there are antipatriotic forces in the country who conspire against the development of Peru. He also indicated that cooperation in this field with other countries would be appropriate. Anything related to gaining experience in fighting subversion and the attempts to destabilize democracy among Latin American countries is convenient, he added. Nevertheless, each country has to face different kinds of problems, he stated. He also indicated that so far there is no indication of the participation of foreign elements in the attack on the Ayacucho prison.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON AYACUCHO JAIL BREAK

Foreign Help Possibility

PY051010 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2017 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 4 Mar (TELAM) -- After a night of terror, calm has returned to Ayacucho where early Wednesday morning terrorists and police clashed resulting in 12 dead, 9 wounded and the escape of 304 prisoners, including 7 women.

Ayacucho, southeast of Lima, is now under police control, a force which has been reinforced with 500 policemen from Lima. A state of emergency and a curfew from 2100 to 0600 has been enforced. In the largest terrorist action during the current administration of President Fernando Belaunde, about 150 well-armed terrorists carried out simultaneous attacks against the jail, the prefect office, the headquarters of the civil guard and the investigations police and the regional hospital to free the arrested terrorists.

According to an official communique released last night, two republican guards were killed, two police officers and six policemen were seriously hurt and 10 of the terrorist group were killed. Some government spokesmen believe that the terrorist attack -- preceded by other attacks to the Ayacucho, Huancavelica and Arequipa jails -- was reportedly planned with foreign help and has set off a veritable war on terrorists, according to Justice Minister Enrique Elias Larosa. Senate President Javier Alva Orlandini did not rule out that this may be an orchestrated guerrilla action. For 2 hours Ayacucho experienced a spree of dynamite explosions and gunfire. The city was practically at the mercy of the terrorists when they blew up the door of the jail and let 297 men and 7 women prisoners escape during simultaneous attacks. In the regional hospital, the terrorists were able to get three hospitalized comrades out, but they were killed in the confrontation with the police.

Included among the seven women who were able to escape is Edith Lagos, one of the main leaders accused of being responsible for several attacks and the person who reportedly planned the terrorists' synchronized attack.

The police forces, reinforced with contingents from Lima, are carrying out a vast search operation for the escapees and those who helped them escape. Air force helicopters are taking part in the search operation.

In spite of the nature of the attack, the synchronization of the attacks and the large number of participants which lead to the assumption of a well-organized operation with foreign help, the interior minister, Lt Gen (Ret) Jose Gagliardi, discarded the participation of the armed forces. He said: I believe that the police forces are quite capable of fighting these seditious elements.

Gagliardi said that the police have orders to open fire to recapture the escapees and the attackers. A similar type of action took place during the first administration of President Belaunde in 1965 when terrorist outbreaks overwhelmed the police forces and made necessary a military intervention which eliminated the terrorist movement in a few months.

Justice Minister Elias Larosa said that the small terrorist groups operating in the country are reportedly getting help from abroad to destabilize the democratic government. The minister emphasized that the events in Ayacucho and Arequipa demonstrate that these are more advanced terrorist actions and not necessarily guerrilla attacks, in contrast to the remarks made by Senate President Alva Orlandini.

When the terrorist group entered the jail they helped not only the terrorists to escape but also the common criminals. According to some reports, the terrorists reportedly murdered 6 of them at point blank range when they refused to leave the jail, a jail that has over 500 prisoners.

Up to this time no group has been charged with the attack, but there is speculation that they are members of the Maoist Shining Path group who in mid-June of last year carried out attacks on high-tension towers, transmission antennas, private and public property and police posts.

This is the second time that a state of emergency has been declared during the Belaunde government. In October of last year after an attack on the Tambo police post where a policeman and two civilians were killed, the government imposed a state of emergency for 60 days, but it did not extend it because it believed that the causes for it had disappeared. On that occasion the state of emergency was implemented in five provinces of the department, but now it includes the whole of Ayacucho Department.

### Interior Minister's Statement

PY051504 Tacna Radio Tacna in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Interior Minister Lt Gen (Ret) Jose Gagliardi Schiaffino dismissed the possibility that members of guerrilla groups are responsible for the recent events in Ayachucho. He said that it is more likely that the actions were aimed at rescuing individuals serving sentences in that city's jail. The interior minister stated that the only purpose of the actions was to rescue prisoners among whom are individuals charged with terrorist activities and drug trafficking. Minister Gagliardi Schiaffino, who visited the Senate's department for investigations on drug trafficking, stated at the end of a 3 and 1/2 hour meeting that it is possible that some of the prisoners at large could have escaped through Huancavelica but that most of them are in the vicinity of Ayacucho, since all exits have been blocked off completely.

### Soviet-Bloc Weapons Used

PY071942 Paris AFP in Spanish 1642 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Lima, 5 Mar (AFP) -- The arms and munitions used by the terrorist commandos last Wednesday in Ayacucho, southeast of Lima, in order to free more than 300 prisoners in an assault which left 16 dead, including 2 policemen, were of Soviet and Czechoslovak origin.

This information was given out by Nicolas de Pierola, a lawyer of the Interior Ministry who, according to a Lima newspaper, has arrived in that city on an investigative mission. Last night two explosions occurred in Ayacucho despite the curfew, state of emergency and suspension of civil rights. Meanwhile, in Cusco in southeast Peru two dynamite attacks took place against residences of police chiefs. The archbishop of Arequipa, the second-largest city in Peru, added his voice to those who are asking the reimplementation of capital punishment for terrorists.

Indicating that human life should be respected, but that no one should lose his life by terrorist acts, the prelate said that the death penalty should be applied in extreme cases, among which are those involving terrorist homicides, whose authors could be considered traitors to the fatherland.

'Red Fatherland' Responsible

PY060200 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1710 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- The Peruvian Communist Party Red Fatherland has claimed responsibility for a dynamite attack perpetrated early on Tuesday on the Supreme Court building in Libertad Department, north of Lima and for the bloody incidents that took place in Ayacucho. The claim was made in a note sent to the LA PRENSA correspondent in Trujillo. In Lima Senator Orlando Brena Pantoja, a member of the party, has categorically denied the report by noting that his group does not use and will never use terrorist methods since, he said, these acts are out of keeping with any kind of achievable gain, these are negative acts. Red Fatherland is a radicalized faction which split away from the orthodox Communist Party. The pro-Maoist Shining Path, on the other hand, is a faction that splintered from Red Fatherland.

Breakdown of Escapees

PY060106 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1702 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Lima, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- The directorate of penal institutions has reported that 54 terrorists -- 11 of whom had been convicted -- are among the 247 inmates who excaped from the Ayacucho jail after an attack by 150 terrorists. The directorate thus corrected the original total number of inmates who escaped by noting that there were 247 and not 304. It added that apart from the 54 terrorists, 108 of the inmates who escaped committed crimes connected with drug trafficking and the rest had committed other crimes.

Terrorists Slaughtered

PY081433 Tacna Radio Tacna in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] (Genaro Olaime) [second surname indistinct], head of the Ayacucho regional health office, has tacitly confirmed that the inmates of the local hospital killed during the bloody events which took place on Wednesday were slaughtered in cold blood. [Passage indistinct] in charge of the case, pointing out that early Wednesday the patients (Urbay), (Alcantara) and (Joel Joyce) were taken out [words indistinct] and their bodies were later found near the fence which surrounds the hodpital. The horrible experience which doctors, nurses and patients of Ayacucho Hospital lived through early Wednesday morning will remain forever in their minds. Hospital workers, who refused to give their names, gave a precise account of the events which resulted in the cold-blooded murder of the youths (Joel Joyce), (Urbay) and (Alcantara), inmates of the hospital under arrest on charges of terrorism.

At approximately 0200 on Wednesday, an armored car of the republican guards arrived at the gate of the hospital. Its occupants, 20 or so, threatened the gate guard and forced him to open the gate. Once inside they left the vehicle, went into the surgery ward and approached the three young prisoners, amid cries of nurses who repeatedly warned them that they could not take away the wounded prisoners without written doctor's orders. In response, the nurses received only threats. One of them had a submachinegun pointed at her temple and another was hit on the head with the butt of a rifle. The nurses were then ordered to put their hands on their heads and were locked in a bathroom.

In the meantime, amid blows and shouted insults, the guards took off the handcuffs which kept the prisoners chained to their beds. (Urbay) had the probe which the doctors had placed in his urinary tract pulled out unceremoniously. In yet another spurt of atrocities the plastic tube which was feeding serum to (Cinajarro), another wounded terrorist, was torn out and used to throttle the patient. The latter fainted and the republican guards took him for dead and left him alone.

Attacks Continue

PY071943 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1915 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Ayacucho (Peru), 6 Mar (TELAM) -- Two explosions occurred last night in this city, southeast of Lima, despite the heightened police vigilance due to the enforcement of a curfew. It was not possible to determine where the explosions took place and the police refused to give more details.

Meanwhile, the police reported the detention of a town councillor and his wife, a professor at San Cristobal University in Huamanga, for alleged participation in terrorist acts. The councillor belongs to the governing Popular Action Party. The police also revealed that up to this moment 15 convicts have surrendered, saying that they had fled due to the terrorists' threats.

It was also reported that there were no terrorists among those who surrendered, and they are still being pursued throughout the department, among them Edith Lagos, who is said to be one of the brains of the Maoist group Shining Path. Meanwhile, the police said that a large amount of arms confiscated belong to the armed forces and police, while others are of Soviet and Czechoslovak origin.

ELECTROPERU WORKERS DECLARE STRIKE FOR 5 DAYS

PY061929 Tacna Radio Tacna in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Excerpt] The union of workers of the Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise ELECTROPERU has issued a communique reporting that its members have been on a general, indefinite strike for 5 days. It states that the strike, which is being observed nationwide, is designed to protest breaches of agreements signed with the union.

BRIEFS

DAILY OIL OUTPUT -- An authorized spokesman of the enterprise Petroperu S.A. has stated that Peru had an output of 200,362 barrels of oil per day in January 1982 as compared with an average output of 192,957 barrels a day in 1981. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 4 Feb 82 p 1 PY]

COMMISSION APPROVES POLITICAL PARTY STATUTE

PY032116 Paris AFP in Spanish 1430 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Montevideo, 3 Mar (AFP ) -- It was learned from reliable sources today that the general principles of the draft of the political parties statute have been approved by the special commission of the State Council in charge of studying the draft. According to the sources, the approved draft law is an endorsement of the philosophy of the set of norms which are going to govern the future activity of political parties. It was submitted to the legislative body by the armed forces, representatives of political parties and the president. The special commission of the State Council -- an organization which has fulfilled the legislative functions of congress since 1973 -- decided to propose to the government that the statute have a constitutional standing and not become a regular law. If it becomes a statute with constitutional force it must have a 3/4 majority for its approval (27 members of the State Council) and any future amendments must get the same majority in two consecutive votes. Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad promised to the political parties that once the statute has been approved, they will have all the guarantees for their activity.

LEFTIST PARTY TO BE EXCLUDED FROM ELECTIONS

PY050031 Paris AFP in Spanish 1419 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Montevideo, 4 Mar (AFP) -- The participation of leftist-oriented parties in future Uruguayan elections has again been banned, this time, by Navy Commander in Chief and government member Vice Adm Rodolfo Invidio.

Vice Adm Invidio implicitly confirmed that only the traditional parties -- the Blanco Party, which is conservative, the Liberal Colorado Party and the Catholic Civic Union -- will proceed to elect party authorities late this year and will then participate in the general elections to elect the president and congressmen in 1984. According to Vice Adm Invidio, a new party with the participation of the left is impracticable in Uruguay; and those who participated in the broad front will have no place in the electoral process. The broad front was formed to participate in the last elections held in Uruguay in 1971 made up of the Communist Party, Socialist Party and groups of the extreme left, as well as dissidents from the Blanco, Colorado and Catholic parties.

ELECTORAL REGISTRATION DEADLINE REMAINS 31 MAY

PY272140 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1515 GMT 27 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 27 Feb (TELAM) -- The Uruguayan Electoral Court has announced that the deadline for civic registration to participate in the internal elections of the political parties, to be held in November, will not be extended. The announcement was made by Dr Camilo Pereyra Uruena, vice president of the court, who pointed out that there will not be enough time to purge the list of electors if the closing date is extended beyond 31 May, the date which has been fixed. The possibility of extending the registration deadline has been proposed by political experts as a way of solving the problem of the young people who will reach the required registration age (18 years) after 31 May.

WEEKLY OPINAR CLOSED 2 MONTHS FOR REMARKS

PY050140 Paris AFP in Spanish 2017 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 4 Mar (AFP) -- The Uruguayan weekly OPINAR, which opposed the government and which follows the line of the Liberal Colorado Party, was closed today for 2 months. The closure was ordered due to the newspaper's offensive and damaging remarks against the executive branch with regard to freedom of the press and due to its having published articles voicing support for proscribed politicians.

DE LA MADRID COMMENTS ON FOREIGN, CUBAN POLICY

FL081740 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0226 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Merida, Yucatan, 7 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's foreign policy, and specifically toward Cuba, has invariably been based on respect for the ability of each country to determine its own political, economic and social destiny, Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado told the local press tonight. The PRI presidential candidate said that Mexico's foreign policy was one of the government's more consistent, congruent and persevering attitudes. "It is basically a policy of principles but, in the majority of cases and circumstances, the principles coincide with its interests," he said.

He said that while Cuba has its socialist regime, we follow the philosophical principles of the Mexican revolution. "We do not want to imitate, nor do we want to export our political model. We believe in mutual respect among nations, and because of it we are very concerned over the international unrest in the area of Central America and the Caribbean, which is an area that borders us," he said. The social unrest, political conflicts and other circumstances in these fraternal countries, which are "very dear to us, as they seek to resolve their problems through internal and external violence, certainly troubles us," which is why, De la Madrid said, "Mexico contributes with all its moral force to avoid solutions of force or violence, and at the same time advocates that the people should resolve their own problems through peaceful, democratic and lawful means." He stressed that the solution to the conflict in the Central American countries lies in economic and social development because social unrest results from "economic and social underdevelopment." He added that Mexico "is very willing to help" in any measure that it can toward achieving the people's economic and social development according to their own choices, "for no other reason than to cooperate and bring peace and development to this geopolitical area."

PARTIES CRITICIZE NATO MANEUVERS IN GULF

FL081600 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2035 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican United Socialist Party, Popular Socialist Party and Institutional Revolutionary Party have condemned the military maneuvers that the NATO forces will hold in the Gulf of Mexico from 8 to 13 March. Representatives of the three parties said that this is only another provocation on the part of the United States, if you take into account the difficult situation in the area of Central America and the Caribbean. They said: The Reagan government is showing clearly with facts the continuous threats it has manifested for several months against the peoples of this area who are seeking their freedom.

They added that although over a hundred U.S. legislators had expressed their support for the peace proposals made by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo, Reagan is trying to counteract it with these maneuvers. All this is a result of the war policy of the U.S. President who is trying to intimidate Cuba, Nicaragua and the Salvadoran people. They added that this situation only aggravates more the problem in this area since it forces th area's peoples to be on the defensive in face of the fear of any invasion.

HUN Y'S JOZSEF MARJAI ARRIVES FOR VISIT

Initial Statement

FL061934 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1635 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's stand for world peace and stability is admired universally, and President Jose Lopez Portillo's initiatives to find peaceful solutions to the political, economic and social problems in Central America and the Caribbean have had repercussions in a single day [as received].

Hungary's deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Jozsef Marjai, made the statement this morning upon arriving in this capital to sign agricultural and commercial protocols with Mexico. Next Monday, he will meet with the Mexican head of state at the Los Pinos official residence.

The Hungarian official said that the proposal made by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo in Managua, Nicaragua, is well directed and will make it possible for finding a solution to the Salvadoran conflict and the political, economic and social anxieties of all Central American and Caribbean nations. He stated that the Mexican position with respect to that area has been received with the approval and support of the Hungarian people and government.

He said that if the recommendations made by the Mexican president are heeded, the internationalization of the Salvadoran conflict will be avoided, as has happened in Poland and other countries, which would be very painful for all peace-loving peoples and governments. He called Mexico a great country with a rapid development which the entire world is following.

He referred to the relations being maintained in all fields by his country and Mexico and termed them valuable. He added that an effort will be made to intensify them, which is why he will meet here with several members of the Mexican economic cabinet.

The Hungarian official was welcomed at this city's international airport protocol hall by Hungary's Ambassador to Mexico Karoly Szabo and Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, Mexican under secretary for economic affairs of the Foreign Ministry.

Reagan Plan Decried

PA081800 Paris AFP in Spanish 1532 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Jozsef Marjai, deputy premier of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, today said that by lending financial aid to Latin American military regimes such as those of Guatemala and El Salvador, the U.S. Government "intensifies confrontations between the people and the military." The Hungarian official is here on an official visit and will today meet with Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo.

Marjai stated that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's aid to military governments in Latin America, only intensifies contradictions and promotes clashes between the uniformed oligarchies and the people. The Hungarian official will discuss with Mexican Government authorities the possibility of signing agreements for the transfer of Hungarian technology to Mexico regarding ways of improving corn yield per hectare, as well as ways of improving seeds.

COSTA RICA'S MONGE PLANS 8 MARCH VISIT

PA061658 Paris AFP in Spanish 1019 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo will receive Luis Alberto Monge, Costa Rican president-elect, in Mexico City on Monday, it was confirmed here last night. The Mexican Presidency's Social Communications Coordinating Office added that there will be an open agenda for the talks, although such topics as the situation in Central America and bilateral relations will certainly be included. Monge will also meet with Miguel de la Madrid, the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party's presidential candidate.

## COSTA RICA

### CARAZO DISCUSSES REAGAN, LOPEZ PORTILLO PLANS

FL082157 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1750 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Report on interview with Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio by correspondent Gullermo Zamora]

[Excerpts] San Jose, 8 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- President Rodrigo Carazo Odio has denied that his government is urging area [countries] to support the program of U.S. aid or elections in El Salvador. In an exclusive interview granted to NOTIMEX, just 2 months before turning the government over to President-elect Luis Alberto Monge, Carazo warned that Costa Rica is seeking its own ways for the solution of its economic problems and rejected any other possibility connected with foreign financial institutions.

Praising Reagan's plan, the president of Costa Rica stated that he is devoted to the struggles undertaken by his country for the elimination of tariff barriers, cancellation of quotas and just prices, and made it clear that "I have always resisted gratis aid because it is always very conditioned," but he likes the opportunity for international aid without conditions. With respect to the exclusion of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada from the plan, he said that "within the overall change set forth by Reagan, it would be asking too much that he would change from a hawk, into a dove at one go. He has to retain some of his old plumage," he stated.

Referring to the proposal by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo aimed at easing tensions in the area, Carazo said it was "objective and intelligent" and that it was "mandatory to further it in our countries. Lopez Portillo has good intentions for our region," he said. He recalled that on 22 May 1979 when they met at the Cancun resort on the Caribbean, the Mexican head of state broke relations with the Anastasio Somoza regime after he heard Carazo's report.

On another subject, Carazo denied that the so-called Central American Democratic Community (formed by Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador) is an alliance to attack the Sandinist government or to give legitimacy to the Salvadoran elections. He said: "It is one more effort of the many made by Costa Rica throughout its history to establish the foundation for democratic coexistence in the region."

Referring to the Salvadoran conflict, he said it is the battlefield of the hegemonic struggle between the Soviet Union and the United States, reiterated that Cuba and the Soviet Union "are stirring the Salvadoran and Guatemalan fires", and that in Nicaragua there is a desire to (?neutralize) 50 years of Somoza dictatorship and foreign pressure does not get used to the fact that Somoza has disappeared.

## EL SALVADOR

### NEW FIGHTING REPORTED IN SAN MIGUEL, SAN VICENTE

PA082129 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2051 GMT 8 Mar 82

[By Orlando Lizana]

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- Dozens of bullet-riddled bodies lined the streets today in the eastern city of San Miguel, where government troops and leftist guerrillas staged a 5-hour battle. An army spokesman said that the situation is under control in the downtown area of the city. However, he admitted that the insurgents are entrenched in the suburbs and are apparently prepared to continue the bitter fighting. The spokesman for the 3d Infantry Brigade, which bore the brunt of the fighting, said: "We do not yet have definite figures, but the number of casualties has been very high."

"There are many bodies in the streets... 20, 30, 40, we do not know exactly how many," a resident told this agency after telephone services were restored following a 4-hour interruption.

The struggle broke out in San Miguel, the third most important city in El Salvador, located 140 km from the capital, at the same time that the guerrillas were engaged in heavy fighting in San Vicente, 60 km east of San Salvador. An army spokesman said that the authorities were considering the possibility of estalishing a curfew in both cities. Last week the civilian-military government extended the state of siege in the country for 30 days.

TERRORISTS STOP TRAFFIC ON MAJOR HIGHWAYS IN EAST

PA061541 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 4 Mar 82 p 3

[Excerpts] Businessmen reported yesterday that commercial activities in the eastern part of the country have been paralyzed since Sunday because of a lack of ground communication. Buses, trucks and trailers are unable to travel on the international [Pan-American] or coastal highways because drivers run the risk of being killed by extremists and of having their vehicles and cargo set on fire.

These individuals, who have posted themselves between km 60 and km 72 of the two highways, have prevented commercial vehicles from passing and have threatened to kill drivers and destroy vehicles if their instructions are disregarded.

Trade has been paralyzed between San Salvador, San Miguel, La Union, Gotera, Usulutan and among towns in all of these departments. According to our sources, the situation can be resolved only by the presence of the army. The sources note that bus owners have clearly stated that they will no longer risk having their vehicles burned by terrorists unless the authorities offer to protect the vehicles during their trips.

The sources indicated that this terrorist situation tends to hinder the electoral process and completely discredits statements made by Guillermo Ungo [Revolutionary Democratic Front President] to the effect that the terrorists would not harass voters.

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI RESUMES BROADCASTS

PA080214 [Editorial Report] The (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador was monitored at its scheduled broadcast time of 0100 GMT on 8 March with fair/poor reception carrying normal programming. It initiated its transmission with the following announcement: "Good evening, heroic Salvadoran people. We are again transmitting for all of our people after expanding and reinstalling our equipment." The radio's broadcast ended at 0155 GMT on 8 March.

FRENCH STATIONS AIR RADIO VENCEREMOS PROGRAMS

PA082346 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Twenty-eight French radio stations are broadcasting Radio Venceremos programs which have been translated into French. According to reports from our correspondents in Paris, 28 radio stations which cover the whole of France are broadcasting Radio Venceremos programs in the French language.

A station has been established in Paris to monitor our programs which are recorded and later translated into French by a group of French companeros and then sent to 28 radio stations. This shows the high level of solidarity achieved by our people's struggle as well as the wide range and scope of Radio Venceremos, the official voice of the FMLN. We can now say that Radio Venceremos has transmissions in French.

FMLN COMMENTS ON MILITARY, POLITICAL STATUS

Casualties in Guazapa

PA040314 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Reports arriving now from Guazapa indicate that our companeros are maintaining their positions and continue to defeat the enemy. Today is the 10th day of heavy fighting just a few kilometers away from the capital.

Our forces are heroically resisting the ninth operation against the area under our control in Guazapa. While the dictatorship reinforces its troops to a total of almost 3,000 soldiers, the FMLN fighters break the encirclement to attack the enemy's rear-guard. This is what our fighters did in San Jose Guayabal and Suchitoto. Meanwhile, in Los Ranchos canton special FMLN forces destroyed tanks and recovered heavy machineguns.

In Guazapa we made elite enemy troops flee in disarray. These troops left behind their dead and M-16 rifles. They also left thousands of cartridges, military radios and other war materiel.

The demoralization of the enemy commanders in Guazapa is so bad that Col Oscar Amaya had to be replaced; he was replaced by Lt Col Edmundo Palacios.

We have inflicted 200 casualties on the enemy in Guazapa since 22 February. Of these, 90 percent belonged to the Atlactl Battalion, which is very brave when its task is to kill 1,000 defenseless peasants in Morazan but worthless when facing our Guazapa fighters. Revolutionary greetings to Guazapa from all of the warfronts, which are sure that this ninth enemy operation will be crushed and broken by the heroic Guazapa fighters. Brothers, we will win!

Interview With Revolutionary

PA030345 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 2 Mar 82

[FMLN interview with Julio Flores, member of the National Association of Salvadoran Teachers 21 June, ANDES 21 June, representative in the Popular Revolutionary bloc; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] We would like to know about our people's current situation and their revolutionary movement now that imperialist intervention grows more imminent and the genocidal junta is preparing to hold its electoral farce.

[Answer] There is no doubt that throughout the war our organization has undergone some necessary changes. This period has been one of huge demonstrations on the streets of the country's principal cities and our country has been able to reaffirm the necessary political control throughout a large part of Salvadoran territory, where our masses are the fundamental bastion for the construction of a new revolutionary power structure. In various areas our people have established their local popular authorities and administer the economic, political and social activities of the masses within a revolutionary state. These organizations have already begun the development of a new society with the collective work of the masses in production activities in various fields. These masses, strongly linked to our popular militias, contribute to the defense of the territory, generating the proper conditions for combat when the enemy begins their invasion operations against our control posts.

The organization of the masses is proceeding satisfactorily, even disputing the enemy's points of control, while our movement's political presence spreads throughout the nation's territory, despite the concentration of enemy forces in the cities, reinforcing their security and paramilitary corps.

[Question] What are the characteristics of the working masses' struggle in view of the repression, crimes and genocide being perpetrated by the criminal junta?

[Answer] The overall situation must be appraised in accordance with the intensity of the war. At this time, the country is conditioned by the effects of that war, which has become generalized in various areas. In the areas of our control, the masses are primarily engaged in rapidly organizing the local popular authorities. In these areas, the needs of the masses are essentially accounted for within their own resources. They work collectively in the effort to defend these territories and to contribute, with the FMLN armed forces, to breaking up the enemy's military operations. In disputed areas, where the enemy still has control, our working people's attitude has varied in their search to fulfill their aspirations. Despite efforts to neutralize our people's labor organization, the enemy has failed to do so.

## Casualties at San Agustin

PA030448 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] We have received a report from our companeros at the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front, who carried out a successful attack on the enemy's garrison in San Agustin, Department of Usulutan, on 1 March. In the action, our companeros inflicted 32 casualties on the enemy. On our side, one heroic companero died and three others were slightly wounded.

At 0440 on 1 March, our forces marched on the southern flank, attacking the enemy's fortifications and trenches with rifle fire and support weapons. As the combat intensified, the enemy tried to reinforce the garrison by sending a helicopter, which machinegunned our positions to no avail. At one of our positions, located between San Agustin and Berlin, we detected an enemy vehicle and activated a mine and machinegunned it, destroying it and causing many casualties. Later at the same place, another enemy vehicle carrying 30 soldiers tried to set an ambush for our companeros. The ambush was foiled.

Our units continued to fight in the area until 1230, when they withdrew with no problem. Another one of our units, located between San Francisco Javier and San Agustin, also clashed with the enemy and prevented its passage until 1230. Meanwhile, a third unit, located between the coastal road and San Agustin, forced two enemy vehicles to withdraw with fire from our revolutionary rifles.

We recovered the following materiel from the enemy: two FAL rifles with full equipment; one .22-cal pistol; one 12 gauge shotgun; five uniforms; and other supplies. Let us defeat the electoral farce with new political and military victories.

## Victory in Usulutan

PA041649 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] After Garcia and the national network of lies announced that the junta swept away the revolutionary forces, these forces of the people have hit them again and even harder. Following the enemy's foiled operation in Usulutan, our forces occupied the city for 5 days, destroyed a helicopter belonging to the dictatorship and attacked several parts of Usulutan; and now our FMLN forces are again hitting the enemy in San Agustin.

We have already reported that a FMLN column staged a victorious operation against enemy positions in San Agustin. We are receiving some reports about enemy casualties in that area of Usulutan. At the military post between San Agustin and the coastal highway, our forces attacked the enemy, who were travelling in two vehicles; they chose to withdraw. The enemy had 18 dead; 9 national guardsmen and 9 paramilitary personnel.

At the San Agustin church, one national guardsman and five paramilitary men died. At the Galingagua military post, the enemy had 8 dead and 10 seriously wounded. The casualties inflicted at the San Francisco Javier military post are not known yet.

There was no fighting at the (El Candil) military post, between San Agustin and the littoral highway.

The total number of enemy casualties in this operation was: 18 national guardsmen and 14 paramilitary dead as well as 10 seriously wounded. We have to regret the death of Companero (Lucrecio) and 3 wounded.

We recovered two FAL rifles and equipment, a .22-cal rifle, a 12-gauge shotgun and other war materiel. In this arms recovery operation we must point out the participation of Companero (Morris), who recovered the FAL rifles. This companero has distinguished himself in previous recovery operations. He has recovered five weapons from the dictatorship.

Meanwhile, sapper squads completely destroyed the installations of the National Telecommunications Administration and other companeros did propaganda work and harangued the townspeople in preparation for the call to the people's insurrection.

We are told from San Agustin that the people responded to the call and cooperated with our fighters by giving them food, water and information. The enemy is retreating. Our forces in Usulutan advance.

Radio Unidad Report

PA041756 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] FMLN guerrillas seized a stretch of the road that goes from San Marcos Lempa to Tierra Blanca in Usulutan Department this morning. Our forces inflicted seven casualties on the enemy when he arrived at the scene.

This is a report that we received from Radio Unidad: [Begin recording] At 0915, enemy forces arrived at our Tierra Blanca checkpoint [words indistinct] and we inflicted two casualties on them. Our forces then went to [words indistinct] where an operation was underway. The enemy maneuvered until they reached the road and the center of the action where our first firing line inflicted five casualties on the enemy bringing the total to seven. We seized a G-3 rifle. Our forces withdrew later on without any problems.

[Words indistinct] up to this moment of our transmission, the enemy is using 81-mm mortars to shell the 14 July neighborhood. The firing has lasted approximately 10 minutes [words indistinct] United to fight to the final victory. Revolution or death we will win! [end recording]

More on Guazapa

PA051527 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Following the crushing defeat that the genocidal army suffered on heroic Guazapa Hill, Commander [name indistinct], chief of the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces, general staff in the Modesto Ramirez Central Front, has sent us a report on the operations staged. According to the report, the enemy has suspended its criminal operation aimed at exterminating our people because two companies in the San Carlos headquarters of the 1st Infantry Brigade rebelled. Also, after [words indistinct] of combat, the Atlacatl Brigade troops, stationed in Suchitoto, refused to continue being killed by revolutionary bullets.

The enemy operation lasted 10 days. Heavy fighting took place for (?8) days. The enemy used four helicopters, six helicopter gunships (it lost three), and four (?Obregon) planes, which every day dropped between four and six bombs and indiscriminately strafed the area every 30 minutes.

They used some 100 85-mm and 105-mm mortal shells every day. The enemy lost about 150 soldiers, 3 officers of various ranks, and 5 noncommissioned officers.

As a result of the bombings and indiscriminate strafing, we lost our crops and several domestic animals. In addition, due to the criminal artillery attacks, 25 peasants, who were burned by the criminal napalm died in the cantons of El Salitre, Palo Grande, (Mirandilla) and El Zapote. We also deplore the death of seven combatants.

In the future, we expect new enemy attacks against the revolutionary positions in Cinquera, Jutiapa and Tenancingo. However, like this time in heroic Guazapa, the enemy will again be defeated and demoralized. Our heroic companeros of Cuazapa (?are still there). Let us defeat the electoral farce through our political and military actions.

Southeastern Front

PA051641 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front war report, from (San Agustin Tres Calles) -- read by announcer]

[Text] On 3 March 1982, our forces seized a stretch of the coastal highway between Tierra Blanca and San Marcos Lempa. At 0630, the enemy arrived from Tierra Blanca and heavy clashes followed. Ten soldiers and two treasury policemen were subsequently killed; some four were wounded. Our forces suffered no casualties.

At 0530, our south and north flank containment units took up their positions. At 0600, the central containment unit occupied the coastal highway. At 0915, there were direct clashes with the enemy and we inflicted on them the casualities already mentioned.

The population cooperated by giving financial aid and staples. They paid close attention to the political propaganda and the harangues. At 1130, our forces left the highway. United to fight until the final victory. Revolution or death, we will win.

U.S. 'Aggressive Plans'

PA051651 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Yankee imperialism has revealed its aggressive plans against the peoples of Central America. These plans must be condemned by the entire democratic world. The Pentagon has admitted that it is trying to set up a military base in Colombia's San Andres island, located off free Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. It has also been learned that criminal Reagan's government is holding talks with both Honduras and Colombia in an effort to ensure for itself the use of military airports in case of emergency.

Another development which confirms criminal Reagan's war-oriented plans is the charge made by (Ambrosio Favio), president of the professional association for the improvement of teaching in Honduras, who says that the Yankees have installed powerful radar on Amapala island, in the Gulf of Fonseca.

These criminal acts of aggression against the Central American peoples must be denounced and fought by all peoples.

In the face of imperialist aggression, Central America prepares.

## Guazapa Battle Results

PA052152 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Radio Venceremos 5 March interview with (Ivan Rodriguez), FMLN political authority on the Guazapa Hill war front -- live]

[Excerpt] [Question] We would like to ask Companero (Ivan Rodriguez) about the characteristics of this offensive that our army has just defeated in Guazapa. Over.

[Begin live relay] [Answer] The main characteristics of this invasion have been the enemy's use of a new system. It has used elite units for rapid mobilization, heavy air maneuvers and land artillery fire. Nevertheless, their maneuvers have been defeated on the military terrain. Their elite mobilization units were defeated at heroic Palo Grande, where our forces permitted the penetration of some command units, as previously planned, in order to later encircle them [words indistinct]. This is how we killed six members of their commando units that entered from that side. We seized all their equipment and arms.

When the enemy saw that it was impossible for them to recover the arms of their dead members, they decided to flee by way of the same place they had entered. They left the bodies because they only care about the arms. In prior invasions we have seen them fighting until the last minute, as long as the soldier, guard or unit possesses a weapon. Then, they forget about their dead or their wounded once our FMLN forces seize the arms. This should be taken into consideration by the forces fighting now on the armed forces side. Over. [end relay]

Radio Venceremos is interviewing Companero (Ivan Rodriguez), who is the political authority at Guazapa Hill, which has turned into a nightmare for the dictatorship.

[Question] Companero (Ivan Rodriguez,) could you give us a report on the war materiel confiscated from the genocidal junta? Over.

[Begin live relay] [Answer] The enemy's materiel and [word indistinct] losses (?in this 9th attack) on Guazapa Hill have been considerable. First of all, the confiscated armament is quite large; we seized 7 M-16 rifles, 2 G-3 rifles [words indistinct], 1 (MAC 772) machinegun dismounted from 1 of the 2 enemy tanks that were burned near the Platanares sector, 2 military radios, over 100 magazines for various caliber rifles, 2,000 rounds of 7.62-mm ammunition and more than 3,000 rounds of 5.56mm ammunition. The enemy has suffered great many casualties, including many seriously wounded. In another transmission we will give more detailed information in a war report. Over. [end relay]

[Question] Companero (Ivan Rodriguez). You mentioned some type of demoralization among the dictatorship's forces, such as their abandonment of their dead and wounded on the Guazapa battlefield. Could you explain this further? Over.

[Begin live relay] [Answer] The enemy has abandoned their dead and we have had to bury them. This has occurred in all the invasions. There is a well near the Palo Grande church where the enemy, when they have no other solution, throws their dead when they have to flee. This time they also left some dead behind that we had to bury. Over. [end relay]

## Guazapa Battle Losses

PA060055 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The clearest evidence of the defeat that our revolutionary army inflicted on the dictatorship's army during the fighting on Guazapa Hill is revealed now in a report of weapons and war materiel seized from the enemy in Guazapa.

The total list of casualties inflicted and war materiel seized 22-28 February is as follows: 226 casualties, including dead; 7 M-16 rifles; 2 D-3 rifles with folding butt; 1 heavy machinegun; 1 M-9 tank, armed forces No XCL211; 1 armed personnel carrier; 1 45-cal pistol with 3 clips; 2 military radios; 99 M-16 ammunition clips; 18 G-3 rifle ammunition clips; 5,476 rounds of 5.56-mm ammunition; 287 rounds of 7.62-mm ammunition; 14 90-mm cannon shells; 1 contact grenade; 1 G-3 grenade; 5 belts of heavy machinegun ammunition with 200 rounds; and many knapsacks, boots, uniforms, boots, belts and other war materiel.

During our tactical withdrawal, a special squad of fighters completely destroyed the enemy's tank and armored car so it cannot be used again against our people.

Given on Guazapa Hill at 1400 on 3 March, in the year of the great people's victories. For the FMLN signed Commander (Raul Hercules), Commander (Rogelio Martinez), Commander (Alejandro Montenegro) and Commander (Joel).

## Junta Troops' Morale

PA062018 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Repression inside the garrisons is becoming more fierce every day. A few weeks ago, Radio Farabundo Marti reported a mutiny by two companies of the 1st Infantry Brigade at San Carlos Garrison, San Salvador. We said at the time that enlisted men, NCO's and officers involved in the mutiny had been whisked away by the enemy espionage and military conterintelligence corps inside the garrison.

Our FMLN intelligence service has reported that 15 of the soldiers who participated in the mutiny and who refused to fight against the revolutionary forces were taken to the San Salvador national police dungeons, where they were tortured and later murdered. The murder of these 15 soldiers, who refused to go into combat and disobeyed the orders of the genocidal leaders, has been completely verified.

Sixty other soldiers who participated in the mutiny have been transferred to various garrisons and are being kept under special vigilance by the genocidal leaders. The relatives of the 15 soldiers murdered in the national police dungeons have not yet been notified of their death and have not been given any explanation of their children's whereabouts.

We have also been notified that more than 35 air force employees at Ilopango are still in prison and that there are mechanics, officers and enlisted men among them. After the blow to the air force inflicted by our revolutionary forces at Ilopango last January, espionage against the employees has increased. In view of the guards' incompetence, the Yankee advisers have decided that the air force installations will be guarded by Yankee Marines.

Our intelligence service has detected the presence of 15 mercenaries at El Paraiso Garrison, Chalatenango. They were hired by the puppet armed forces. These mercenaries, Vietnam war veterans and experts in crime and in population extermination, earn $4,500 per month and have been hired for 3 months. They are not considered advisers.

We have in the past denounced the presence of Yankee mercenaries who are fighting alongside the puppet troops. Recently a military unit comprising a large number of mercenaries was detected in the northern part of San Vicente Department. These mercenaries, like the Yankee officers, show little respect for the troops. This has already caused many conflicts between [words indistinct] and among the enlisted men.

### Political Cadres School

PA062150 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] The revolution is advancing with the formation of new politico-military cadres in the zone under revolutionary control. The national school of cadres which is named after our heroic Companero (Ramiro), (Jose Dimas Alas), was inaugurated on 1 March somewhere in the zone under revolutionary control. It is an important development. The revolution has inflicted another political blow to the criminal junta and to their imperialist bosses with the formation of a new politico-military cadres school for the people who have recently joined the people's liberation war.

The school was named after Companero (Jose Dimas Alas) to honor this great warrior on behalf of the people's cause. He was a worthy example of the working class killed in 1971 during a heroic battle. By increasing the revolutionary cadres we are promoting the revolution.

### Radio Seized

PA072007 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1800 GMT 6 Mar 82

[FMLN Paracentral Front Report -- relay]

[Text] On 5 March at 1940, Radio Lorenzana of San Vicente was seized by a (?militant) group of the people's forces. In this action, we broadcast a revolutionary message to all the [word indistinct] people about the struggle against the electoral farce and against the criminal intervention of Yankee imperialism. The recording was on the air for more than 30 minutes. The enemy showed up 45 minutes after our companeros had withdrawn.

## GUATEMALA

### GENERAL ANIBAL GUEVARA LEADING IN VOTE COUNT

PA081234 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0839 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- With the present total count of almost 80,000 votes in the Guatemalan elections, Gen Anibal Guevara, the ruling government's candidate, is moving ahead of his extreme rightwing and center adversaries. According to unofficial reports, General Guevara has obtained 36 percent of the counted votes.

If he maintains this proportion of the votes, he would obtain the minimum majority necessary to win but not an absolute majority (more than 50 percent of the valid votes).

In the current partial results, extreme rightist Mario Sandoval and centrist Alejandro Maldonado are in second place with a similar number of votes. Nationalist Gustavo Anzueto has been totally eliminated from any possible victory.

The current percentages of the counted votes are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Gen Anibal Guevara (Government) | 36 percent |
| Alejandro Maldonado (Centrist) | 28 percent |
| Mario Sandoval (Anti-communist) | 25 percent |
| Gustavo Anzueto (Nationalist) | 11 percent |

The constitution establishes that the outgoing congress, in which the parties that support the government's candidate have an absolute majority, will decide through a runoff election which of the two candidates who have received the largest number of votes will be the next Guatemalan president.

## Late Election Results

PA090025 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] These are the general election results from 174 municipalities: National Liberation Movement, 130,043 votes; Revolutionary Party-Institutional Democratic Party-National Unity Front Coalition, 176,842 votes; Nationalist Authentic Central, 48,196 votes; and Christian Democratic-Nationalist Renovating Party Coalition, 117,544 votes.

## 'VIRTUAL WINNER' GUEVARA COMMENTS ON ISSUES

PA090230 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Foreign and special correspondents of many communications media of various countries treated Gen Anibal Guevara like the virtual winner of last Sunday's elections during the well-attended news conference held by the leader of the Popular Democratic Front [FDP]. General Guevara frankly answered all the questions asked by foreign and Guatemalan newsmen. He began the conference with a vote of thanks to the Guatemalan people for having gone to the polls en masse despite extremist threats and attacks. He also thanked them for the confidence that they had shown in the FDP candidates by voting for them.

Later, the presidential candidate of the Revolutionary Party-Institutional Democratic Party-National Unity Front answered questions asked by newsmen. He said that the charges of alleged irregularities in the vote count made by some of his adversaries are the usual tricks by those who do not have sincere explanations with which to answer their supporters' questions. He said that the vote count in this election has been the speediest ever and that, in view of the participation of all parties at the voting booths and of the other mechanisms used for the vote count, fraud was impossible. He recalled that in the days preceding the elections he had said on more than one occasion that he would win the presidency at the polls and that if he were to lose, it would also be at the polls.

Subsequently, General Guevara discussed other topics presented by the newsmen. On the subject of his foreign policy, he said that he is especially interested in maintaining cordial relations with Mexico, in view of the affection that he feels for the Mexican people. He added that the Mexican Government has the right to maintain diplomatic relations with whatever nations it wishes, including those with communist regimes, since General Guevara greatly respects the principle of nonintervention in the affairs of other states.

Guevara said that he would like Guatemala to reestablish relations with Spain, as long as there is no attempt to establish prior conditions. On the subject of U.S. aid to Guatemala, General Guevara said that it would be well received, in the framework of the reciprocal respect that sovereign states owe each other and in accordance with the priorities set by Guatemala.

In addition, he said he wishes to increase friendship with the people of Belize, without forgetting Guatemala's just claims to that territory.

In answer to another question, the FDP candidate said that Nicaragua's increasing war potential threatens the peace and stability of the region, to the extent that that government does not interfere in the domestic affairs of the nations of the area. [sentence as heard]

Answering another question, General Guevara said that he is not concerned about the political affiliation of the next mayor of Guatemala City, but that he is interested in having the central government contribute to meeting the needs of the residents of the capital.

He also referred to unionization of workers, noting that during his electoral campaign, he had insisted on the need for the rights of employees to be respected and had said that workers should organize to defend their labor rights, but not to participate as labor leaders in political party matters, because this would divert them from their objective and distort their (?goals).

General Guevara said that the Marxist-Leninist subversives have no scruples about using any illicit resources available to them, because they preach that the end justifies the means. Thus, he said, they murder, steal and commit all kinds of crimes, but in the international sphere they seek to appear as victims by trying to blame the army for their own excesses and crimes.

Nevertheless, the general reiterated that he intends to make an appeal to the subversives in the form of amnesty decreed by the congress of the republic, asking them to change their attitude. However, those who fail to heed this call will be combatted with all the state's resources, while at the same time, the roots of social discontent will be attacked in an effort to meet the needs of the underprivileged. The general took advantage of the opportunity presented by the presence of the foreign newsmen at the news conference to send a warm and fraternal greeting to the Latin American peoples.

In response to questions from the foreign correspondents, General Guevara, the virtual winner of the presidential elections, said: My government will be new, different from that of Gen Lucas Garcia. He said that his officials will be new people, aides chosen especially to work for the benefit of the people and to work on the social and economic problems that he proposes to resolve.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON ELECTIONS

PA090305 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Government declaration issued in Guatemala City on 8 March 1982 -- read by unidentified civil registry official]

[Text] In view of certain rumors that seek to distort the truth as to the purity of yesterday's elections, and given the discontent expressed by some political parties and political leaders, the government of the republic states:

1. It is surprised that the electoral results released so far should be considered definite, when the total count has not yet been received from the municipality of Guatemala or from the interior of the republic.

2. The political parties have accredited representatives on all of the country's municipal electoral boards, which send the respective paperwork, together with the records of the electoral results, to the Electoral Registry. These records are signed by the delegates of the accredited parties.

3. If there should be any discrepancy between the information sent to the GUATEL Information Center and to the Electoral Registry, the Congress of the Republic will resolve the discrepancy when it makes the final count.

4. The partial electoral results that have been released reflect the government's special interest in keeping the people informed of the choice they expressed at the polls.

5. The government reiterates its determination to faithfully respect the results of the popular elections.

6. Finally, the government recommends that the political parties and the people in general remain calm, for the sake of the country's tranquillity and for the happy conclusion of the electoral process.

## OPPOSITION PARTIES WANT TO NULLIFY ELECTION

PA090113 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0034 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The opposition wants to nullify Sunday's elections in Guatemala because they think that there has been a fraud and that the people have been fooled, disrupting the democratic process.

The adversaries of Gen Anibal Guevara, the semi-official presidential candidate -- who, according to official reports, currently has the largest number of votes -- are saying that they are the winners.

Mario Sandoval Alarcon, top leader of the National Liberation Movement [MLN], which has an ultrarightist and anticommunist tendency, told foreign journalists that he wants the elections nullified because the return figures were altered at the Guatemalan Telecommunications Enterprise [GUATEL] building, where the data are compiled.

Alejandro Maldonado, presidential candidate for the Centrist Reformist National Party [PNR], has charged that the results are being manipulated to benefit Guevara. However, Maldonado did not refer to fraud directly.

Gustavo Anzueto, representative of the liberal right private enterprise sector, has not said much, because of the few votes in his favor.

Guevara told foreign journalists that all of the parties have their representatives at the polls in order to prevent any kind of fraud and that any dispute should be taken up in the proper courts. None of the four candidates has an absolute majority -- that is, more than 50 percent of the votes, which is what the law demands if the winner is to be automatically declared president of the republic once the elections results are known.

Now it will be up to the outgoing congress to decide, in a second round of elections -- as has been done on five previous occasions -- who of the two candidates with the most votes will be president of the republic. The outgoing congress contains a majority of deputies from the governing coalition parties and, in addition to this, Guevara has the most votes. The congressional decision could be delayed for an indefinite period of time, but usually it is announced in a week.

The results reported early this afternoon, approximately one day after the closing of the polls and with more than 60 percent of the polling places returns counted, are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Anibal Guevara (semi-official) | 37 percent |
| Mario Sandoval (anti-communist) | 27 percent |
| Alejandro Maldonado (centrist) | 26 percent |
| Gustavo Anzueto (liberal right) | 10 percent |

Guevara's adversaries have said that the slow vote-counting favors him. The Electoral Council, however, has said that the only reason for the delay is the strong security measures that had to be adopted to avoid spectacular guerrilla actions.

## PARTIES WITHDRAW ELECTORAL REGISTRY DELEGATES

PA081350 Paris AFP in Spanish 1330 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 Mar (AFP) -- The representatives of the center-left Opposition Union (UO) and the rightwing National Liberation Movement (MLN) in the Guatemalan Electoral Registry have been withdrawn by both parties, which have denounced the existence of electoral fraud and irregularities in Sunday's general elections.

Gen Anibal Guevara, candidate of the ruling government's coalition, continued leading the vote count with 78,736, 35 percent; followed by Alejandro Maldonado of the UO, with 64,395 votes.

MLN candidate Mario Sandoval Alarcon is in third place with 59,397 votes, but the last two results are not accepted by the MLN or the UO, which have charged that fraud and irregularities have been committed in the election process and that there has been "manipulation of the information."

43 GUERRILLAS KILLED IN CLASHES WITH ARMY

PA061639 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1418 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 6 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Forty-three guerrillas have been killed in the past few hours in three clashes between subversives and Guatemalan Army troops. The columns of "Kaibiles," specialists in antiguerrilla warfare, uncovered two Poor People's Guerrilla Army hideouts in the mountainous, strife-torn region of El Quiche.

According to a military source, 24 leftwingers were killed in one of the [illegible]ps, 11 in a second and 8 revolutionaries were killed in a clash between guerrillas and civil patrol troops. In the last armed clash, 15 members of the civil patrol were wounded, according to the military source. However, the Guatemalan Army Information Secretariat has not yet officially confirmed this information.

Other guerrilla activities in different parts of the country included the burning of a mayor's office and the occupation of the San Vicente Pacaya Municipality for several hours, although no one was injured. Police and military patrolling of the city and interior part of the country has been stepped up just 1 day before the general elections, which will be held on Sunday. The army general staff confirmed that it had received information that the leftwingers are preparing to stage armed attacks in the capital in the next few hours.

REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS ISSUE PROCLAMATION

PA051602 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0308 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] San Jose, 3 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemala's revolutionary organizations today issued in this capital a proclamation pointing to the vices of their country's social and political system and offering a government program that will put an end to the crisis. The document was signed by the Poor People's Guerrilla Army. the Rebel Armed Forces, the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization and the Guatemalan Labor Party. These groups recently formed the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity.

The declaration warns that "the Guatemalan people are fighting a revolutionary people's war because the very rich, both local and foreign, have not left them any other path to overcome repression, exploitation, oppression and dependence on other countries." The document blames the Guatemalan Government for the "most disgraceful genocide in Latin America," which has cost over 83,000 lives since 1954.

The groups also accuse "the dominant classes" of resorting to armed force as the only means of preserving power and announce the possibility of staging a coup "as the solution for those ambitious and repressive sectors." The organization declare that the only path open to the Guatemalan people is a "revolutionary people's war." To this end, they call for "the formation of a great front of patriotic unity" led by a political-military vanguard comprised of the organizations signing the document.

## NICARAGUA

### D'ESCOTO SAYS U.S. RELATIONS 'NOT GOOD'

PA052250 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto has charged that the United States wants to project relations of arrogance, hostility and slander toward Nicaragua. Father Miguel d'Escoto said yesterday that the United States is trying to project a negative image of Nicaragua and trying to justify its aggression against the Salvadoran people through relations characterized by constant harassment, arrogance, slanders and a multimillion-dollar publicity campaign. Relations are not good but we will continue to struggle so that prudence and good sense will prevail. The U.S. public has a favorable attitude toward the Nicaraguan process. This is very important for the national reconstruction government, Father Miguel d'Escoto stressed. He added that Nicaragua is currently studying reports that the Reagan administration is planning to build naval bases in Colombia and Honduras in preparation for future aggressions. He said the government will issue specific replies at the proper time.

Regarding a statement attributed to Pope Paul II about alleged support for the elections in El Salvador, the Nicaraguan foreign minister said that the pope could not have said what the transnational news agencies reported because if that were true, the pope would be endorsing the Yankee imperialist formula that has been condemned by many governments of Europe and the whole world.

### D'ESCOTO CRITICIZES CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY

PA052319 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] In a letter addressed to the UN secretary general, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto stated that in March 1980, the Central American governments signed the San Jose declaration in Costa Rica, which established methods of consultation and (?coordination) among the countries of the area. He indicated that this makes the creation of the so-called Central American Democratic Community unjustified. D'Escoto questioned the objectives of the creation of the community and asked who is behind it, in view of the difficult economic dependence ot two of its members and the need to shore up the international image of a third member.

He described the establishment of the community as a surprise action aimed at giving support to the electoral process in El Salvador and at isolating countries such as Nicaragua and Panama, whose positions are well known. The note of the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry criticizes the fact that the tripartite alliance completely disregards the other four countries of the subregion, Panama, Guatemala, Belize and Nicaragua.

### AMBASSADOR IN GDR GIVES RADIO INTERVIEW

LD062238 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1800 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Dr Ramirez, Nicaraguan ambassador to the GDR, has expressed his people's great appreciation for the aid given by the Socialist German state in rebuilding their country. In a radio interview he said: This comprehensive support, both in the economic and humanitarian fields, made possible, in the 2 and 1/2 years since the revolution, the gradual recovery of the economy, and the rebuilding of towns and the education system. The solution of problems was a lengthy and complex process since it was taking place under the permanent pressure from, and attempts at intervention by, U.S. imperialism. The ambassador referred to plans by the secret service, the CIA, for industrial sabotage, and the blocking if international credits and food deliveries. Washington was using slanderous assertions to seek excuses for military intervention in Nicaragua. To this end thousands of former Somoza mercenaries are being trained in Florida, California, and Chile.

INTERVIEW WITH CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER AGUERO

PA021730 Panama City Radio Continente in Spanish 1145 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Interview in Miami by Mayin Correa for the "La Palabra" program with exiled Nicaraguan Conservative Party Leader Fernando Aguero: date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Dr Fernando Aguero, why are you living in exile in Miami although you were among those Nicaraguans who fought for the Somoza [as heard] regime, which won?

[Answer] Simply because my political opinion and ideology are based on democracy. Naturally, when my country fell into the hands of a Marxist-Leninist government such as the present one, there has been persecution against anything that stands for democracy. The truth is that ever since I was a student, through the time I was a political leader, we were always completely opposed to the Somoza family dictatorship embodied in General Somoza Garcia, Luis Somoza, and General Somoza Debayle.

[Question] In what way did you and your party participate with the Sandinists in the violent struggle against Somoza?

[Answer] I want to clarify that Somoza's overthrow was not exclusively because of the so-called Sandinists, or in other words the Marxist group. It was an all-out struggle by the Nicaraguan people. There were representatives of all ideologies and trends who were tired of the Somoza regime. The Nicaraguan people's historic struggle was skillfully used by the Nicaraguan Marxist-Leninist sector to grab power. I am saying this because in Nicaragua, as everywhere else, communism was a very well-organized minority. The communists started fighting in the mountains. They later came to the cities when they saw that the masses had rebelled in Nicaragua. The victory against the Somoza dictatorship belongs to the Nicaraguan people, not to the Sandinists. I say Sandinists because that is what they are being called now. The victory does not belong to the Marxists. They usurped the power seized by the people in circumstances we all know.

[Question] The Conservative Party, which you have led for so many years, is participating in the Sandinist government. How do you view the Conservative Party's participation in a Marxist government?

[Answer] Well, I belong to the Nicaraguan Conservative Party. In Nicaragua there is the democratic Conservative Party, which is not participating in the government as a political organization. I understand that there is a marked opposition by conservative elements to the Sandinist regime. It is something else that there are sectors of the old Nicaraguan oligarchy -- who are not useful fools; they are smart fools -- who side with the Nicaraguan Marxist-Leninist regime. Nicaraguan political structures cannot disappear, because they have deep roots in the hearts of Nicaraguans. What does exist, as I said a few moments ago, are opportunist groups who are with the government.

[Question] I understand that more than 300,000 Nicaraguans are in exile because they fled after the Sandinist government proclaimed itself Marxist. They are people who cannot live in a communist regime. Some of these people who oppose the Sandinist regime left because they were Somozists; others, as yourself, because they were anti-Somozist; others because they don't want communism; others for other reasons -- but they are all against the regime. Don't you think that this struggle for the return of democracy to Nicaragua is weakened because of all these divisions. For example, I have met with anti-Somozists who are opposed to this regime, and I have also met with Sandinists who oppose the regime. I see that there are divisions in this struggle, which is going to be very hard because we all know of the support that Cuba gives to the Sandinists.

I compare this struggle to that waged by 1 million Cubans during 20 years. They have been here debating when they will go back to Cuba. I see that you have been here only 2 or 3 years. I am comparing you with these people who have been here for 20 years talking about going back to Cuba although they are still here. Yet, they are not going back to Cuba; they are not going back. How do you compare the struggle of the Cuban anticommunists and that of the exiled anti-Sandinists?

[Answer] There are substantial differences. Now there is superpower outside this continent with which Nicaragua has joined in a plot of immense dimensions, not only for Nicaragua, not only for Central America, but for the whole continent. We are suffering open and specific intervention by Soviet imperialism. This is seen very clearly in Nicaragua. We have thousands of Fidelists there; I don't call them Cubans. We have European internationalists, who are European Communists. There are communists from throughout South America who are active and are plotting in Nicaragua, on the American mainland, to take over not only Central America; the Caribbean countries will be next, Mexico is in danger, South America is in danger. This is no longer a domestic problem. Under those circumstances, it is absurd that we talk at this stage about Somozism or anti-Somozism. Of course, Somoza's dictatorship was not a philosophy or an ideology. It was not even a rightist dictatorship. It was a personal family dictatorship that did not leave roots in Nicaraguan life. Somoza is dead and buried, and Somozism died with him.

Therefore, I believe we would be making a great mistake by talking about things that are dead and buried. The present problem does not affect only Nicaraguans; it affects all the Americas. There is a sort of pseudonationalist complex in many parts of America. I really believe that as time goes by, people are advancing and the inter-American system is more or less erasing borders, in the sense of intervention and nonintervention. If we belong to an organization called the Organization of American States, to which all countries in America belong, the peoples' interdependency acquires greater importance, especially now in the joint defense against a common enemy, such as the USSR.

It is not intervention by Fidel Castro, who is merely Moscow's puppet; it is Soviet intervention, very skillfully disguised through Fidel Castro and others who have cooperated in this game. We have to state things clearly. U.S. President Carter and General Somoza Debayle of Nicaragua are the two men who share the greatest blame for the Nicaraguan and Central America tragedy. Somoza Debayle stubbornly refused to step down in time to open the path for a democratic regime; instead, power in Nicaragua was handed on a silver platter to international communism.

[Question] How do you view the political situation in Honduras, where elections were held, and Mr Monge's victory in Costa Rica, in relation to Nicaragua? Do you believe that these two political events will have a positive influence on the situation of violence and the crumbling democratic systems in El Salvador and Guatemala?

[Answer] They are positive events. Any popular expression respected and accepted by both the people and the armies of these countries is a positive event. However, that does not mean that the Central American problem will be settled through isolated events. Of course, I believe that communism is irreversible. Communism is expansionist. Communists can never accept this kind of solution, because their political context is completely opposed to free elections. To refresh your memory, I would like to recall that during the famous OAS meeting where the Somoza family regime was condemned -- justly, up to that point -- it was clearly and precisely established that there would soon be free elections in Nicaragua, that private property would be respected, that there would be freedom of the press and of speech, that there would be political pluralism and that there would be a mixed economy, among other things. This chapter remains open.

However, in the 3 years that followed, we have seen that the course of events in my country demonstrates the opposite.

The current regime openly and totally refuses to hold elections. According to them, the people already voted during the armed struggle. Later, freedom of speech took the form of constant threats against LA PRENSA, a newspaper that helped the Sandinists immensely. This newspaper has been closed down many times and is threatened daily by the current authoritative, Marxist-Leninist regime in Nicaragua.

Political pluralism materialized in a tendency toward a single party that they call the Sandinist Party. Freedom for labor unions is a myth. Of course, the Sandinists lean toward a single union. The mixed economy in the country is supported by a rapidly declining and decadent economy in which industrialists, businessmen and farmers are constantly persecuted and inhibited in all productive activities. In this way, the economic and social situation in Nicaragua is regressing. None of those promises made by the Sandinists and contained in the famous OAS document have been kept. What I want to tell you is that the phenomenon of a free elections in Honduras, in Costa Rica, is a positive but not a determining factor in the serious crisis that is occurring in Central America.

I firmly believe that through democracy we can establish the socioeconomic reforms needed for our peoples, with certain measures that involve the development of our respective nationalities. I am not speaking of an extreme right, or of using extreme rightist or extreme leftist terminology. I believe that democracy should have no surname. Democracy is the evolution of peoples along lines that are closest to human nature. For example, one can say that communism shows no respect for private property and democracy respects private property, but if you speak of agrarian reform, democracy can easily produce an integral agrarian reform for the development and benefit of the country's peasants and working class.

If one speaks of unions, democracy promotes different unions as a means of social equilibrium and not as a matter of imposition, which totally distorts the social function, the social equilibrium of the union.

Of course, a single union obeys the partisan orders of the Communist Party. That is what happens in Russia. In Russia, (?different) unions are not permitted because the unions are in fact an appendage of the Communist Party, of Russia's communist policy. That is what they want to impose in all of our countries.

Freedom of the press is one of the principles of democracy. Free expression and self-determination through the people's consensus are inadmissible in the communist system. That is why I say that in Nicaragua there can be no stopping in the current Marxist system except by force. Just as they entered by force, they have to leave by force. All of America must be aware of this. America cannot remain inactive or impassive in the face of the events in Central America. There can be no peace in Central America as long as Nicaragua maintains the status of a Marxist-Leninist government.

[Question] Today and in past weeks we have heard reports about counterrevolutionary movements against the Sandinist government in Nicaragua. There have been reports of actions on the border and of a bomb in the airport. In sum, we notice that there are groups fighting against the Sandinist government. What future do you see for these violent counterrevolutionary movements, which stage only sporadic actions but are still constantly felt? Do you see any future for the guerrilla movement against the Sandinist government?

[Answer] Definitely. I will tell you that, according to the data that I have, the Nicaraguan people's dissatisfaction with the system that is oppressing them is evident. As I understand it, 85 to 90 percent of the Nicaraguan people are against the system established in Nicaragua. This dissatisfaction is naturally expressed in acts of that nature, which are increasing. I think that Nicaragua will shortly explode because of all of the disagreement that exists, even within the system itself. The regime that is supposedly governing Nicaragua consists of a communist minority, of people who have come from the criminal class and from [word indistinct] and of people who are very ambitious economically.

Therefore, it is a strange mixture that has emerged in my country and, in truth, it doesn't respond to the Nicaraguan people's great struggle. In other words, the Nicaraguan people have been totally defrauded.

Our people's situation has deteriorated in an alarming way. Nicaragua was a country of abundance. It was blessed by nature with many resources. There was never hunger or unemployment in Nicaragua. However, now, despite the paradise promised, as usual, by the Marxists, who said that there would be abundance, there is a shortage of everything.

Our agricultural production has hit the bottom; logically, the national economy has also hit the bottom. In addition to this, there is the loss of professionals. There is a great exodus of Nicaraguans. This clearly shows that the Nicaraguan people are not happy with the communist view that prevails in the country.

## DORA MARIA TELLEZ VIEWS RELATIONS WITH HONDURAS

PA042240 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Mar 82 p 24

[By Manuel Torres Calderon]

[Text] Managua, Nicaragua -- Commander Dora Maria Tellez, "Comandante Dos," has made a quick analysis of the relations between Nicaragua and Honduras, stressing that the two governments should sign an agreement to eliminate the possibility that "Somozist bands will unleash a fatal war between the two countries." She alsc disclosed that she knows the names of the "counterrevolutionary leaders who operate from Honduras."

The commander commented that her government hopes that President Roberto Suazo Cordova will accept the proposal of establishing binational military patrols to maintain peace and not have tension along the Coco or Segovia Rivers, site of frequent skirmishes which bring mourning to the region.

We think, she said, that the liberal government will express its interest in establishing a peace zone "which will enable us to jointly confront the danger that looms over both Nicaraguans and Honduras due to the presence of armed Somozists who could begin a major conflict." Throughout the interview, Commander Tellez expressed hopes that Suazo Cordova and his cabinet will be able to avoid a war "since we must not be tools of U.S. interests. Our objective should be the elimination of the undesired shadow of a conflict."

The Sandinist leader said that the main problem lies in the Somozist bands which roam along the border. She said that "we do not know the names of those who finance them but unquestionably they have protection and we know who are their leaders." At this time I reiterate that the Argentine Government is intervening, she said without giving further details.

She said that her main concerns are: The impunity with which the bands act and the fact that efforts have not been coordinated to stop the bloody incursions by the bands.

The situation of the Nicaraguan Miskitos is a subject that is controversial because it is sensitive to public opinion. This is particularly so with the controversial "MISURASATAS" led by Steadman Fagoth Mueller who is visiting the United States at the invitation of the State Department.

Comandante Dos explained that her government decided to relocate the Miskitos who live along the border between Gracias a Dios Department and Zelaya Department in order to "preserve their lives, give them greater protection and support them in the recovery of their dignity which in the past was denied them." We are concerned, she said, about the malicious and ill-willed use of the problem on the Atlantic coast, ignoring the fact that despite the general difficulties, the Sandinist revolution's commitment to develop the country's eastern region is being carried out.

She denied that Miskitos have been murdered as was widely revealed at one time. She also denied that the Miskitos are being tortured, abused or that their human rights are being violated. She stressed that in the past 2 years of the revolution, schools have been increased; they have been made literate; incentives have been established for their crops and their religious roots have been respected.

Our detractors, she stressed, seem to forget that in that region there has been an economic and cultural backwardness for centuries, and that many people want to maintain it this way so that the people can continue to be exploited, segregating them from the rest of the nation. "However, we are sure that they won't achieve this."

Before returning to her work, the former medical school student and now commander reiterated that "we always seek to consolidate the processes of peace and friendship, particularly with Honduras, a fraternal country and people."

PASTORA REPORTEDLY MAY JOIN OPPOSITION GROUP

PA081630 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 4 Mar 82 p 10 A

[Text] Fernando Chamorro Rapacciolli, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Nicaragua (FARN), said that Commander Eden Pastora "may soon walk beside us," clearly implying that "Commander Cero," the former Nicaraguan deputy interior minister, may join the struggle against the Sandinist regime. "We are aware that Pastora shares with us the desire to return to Nicaragua in order to liberate it from communists," Chamorro affirmed during an exclusive interview for the weekly LA NACION INTERNACIONAL. He added that he had contacted the former head of the Sandinist people's militias through intermediaries in Panama 1 month ago. In addition, the top commander of FARN -- the armed branch of the Nicaraguan Democratic Union (UDN) -- gave details of the struggle he and his brother Edmundo Chamorro Rapacciolli lead from the mountains in northern Nicaragua, together with other compatriots.

A staunch anti-Somozist, Chamorro denied having ties with any group of former Somozist guardsmen. He said that the FARN-UDN is promoting the true revolution, which he believes was frustrated by the advent to power by a Marxist-Leninist regime. In the one-page interview, Chamorro also outlines the military capabilities of his movement and the Sandinist government and the financial and moral support his group is receiving from Nicaraguan exiles.

REBEL RADIO REPORTS DESERTION OF AIR FORCE PILOT

PA081250 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0300 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] This is a last minute report. Desertions are on the increase in the dictatorship's ranks. Radio 15 September has been able to obtain confirmation that a pilot of the mangy-dog air force has just deserted.

Attention, Nicaraguans, a high-ranking pilot of the mangy-dog air force deserted today with his plane, a P-47 aircraft, abandoning the dictatorship's genocidal ranks. We repeat. A high-ranking pilot of the mangy-dog air force deserted today with his plane, a P-47 aircraft, abandoning the dictatorship's genocidal ranks.

The pilot flew with his entire family and personal belongings to Honduras, where he described himself as a deserter from the mangy-dog air force. The deserting pilot said in an initial statement that the terror the mangy-dog dictatorship has established in our country is disastrous and that many other pilots are also refusing to carry out the bombings of the Atlantic coast.

UK HOUSE OF COMMONS DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT

Trade Expansion Discussed

FL051304 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The state of trade between Cuba and Great Britain and its potential for expansion were the subject of study in a meeting between the British House of Commons' Committee for Foreign Affairs and Cuba's Ministry of Foreign Trade. The talks were presided over by Sir Anthony Kershaw, who heads the visitng British delegation, and by Ricardo Cabrizas, Cuban minister of foreign trade. During the meeting, Minister Cabrizas stressed the importance placed on bilateral negotiations with Great Britain, among them the recently held Cuban-British joint commission which ended here with the signing of an official document and the upcoming arrival of an important British delegation comprised of British industrialists and businessmen.

Meeting With Malmierca

FL052009 Bridgetown CANA in English 1338 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Havana, 5 Mar (CANA-REUTER) -- A group of British members of Parliament had talks with Cuban Foreign Minister Isodoro Malmierca yesterday on the second day of a five day visit to Cuba, diplomats said. The MP's, four Conservative and five Labour members of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, are on a 10-nation fact-finding tour of the Caribbean and Central America.

The tour began on February 28 and is scheduled to end on March 14. It comes ahead of the March 28 elections in El Salvador, to which Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her Conservative Government have agreed to send observers.

The delegation is headed by Sir Anthony Kershaw, a Conservative. The others are: Eric Deakin, Labour; Eldon Griffiths, Conservative; Frank Hooley, Labour; Peter Mills, Conservative; Dennis Canavan, Labour; George Foulkes, Labour; Nigel Spearing, Labour; and Bown Wells, Conservative.

Meeting With Fernandez

FL052131 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1923 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The members of the delegation of Great Britain's House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, headed by its chairman, Anthony Kershaw, were received today by Jose Fernandez de Cossio, vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation. During the talks, the Cuban side explained to the members of the British Parliament the functions of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation and exchanged views on future trade relations between our country and Great Britain. The visitors were also briefed on our country's policy of economic, scientific and technical cooperation, both with industrialized and developing countries. The British delegation has also met with other Cuban officials.

Fidel Meets With Delegation

FL081500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has held a meeting with a British parliamentary group, members of a House of Commons' select committee.

The British parliamentarians are conducting a tour of Central American and Caribbean countries, collecting information regarding the situation in El Salvador and in the area. The delegation, which is headed by Sir Anthony Kershaw, will make recommendations to the British Government concerning its policy in Central America and the Caribbean. During its stay in Cuba, the British parliamentarians also met with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State, with Isidoro Malmierca, minister of foreign relations, and with other officials of our country.

NONALIGNED MOVEMENT FORUM BEGINS IN HAVANA

FL081505 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1213 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] The fourth meeting of countries coordinating the action program for economic cooperation of the Nonaligned Movement will get underway today at the Palace of Conventions in Havana. More than 40 countries and four international organizations will participate in the forum which will deal with the results of the world economic situation, the struggle for the establishment of the new international economic order, and the progress of economic cooperation among the developing countries. The meeting will focus on the implementation of the nonaligned program of action in general and on specific areas of cooperation. The fourth meeting on economic cooperation among Nonaligned countries will meet in plenary sessions at the Palace of Conventions and will come to a close on Saturday 13 March.

HART ADDRESS AT MANAGUA INTELLECTUALS' MEETING

FL051520 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Cuba's Minister of Culture Armando Hart said that the only path to ensure democracy in our America as well as in North America is by preventing the United States from inciting intervention. Hart spoke last night in Managua at the opening of the first meeting of the permanent committee of intellectuals for the sovereignty of the Latin American and Caribbean countries which was attended by outstanding cultural figures from the continent.

The Cuban minister pointed out that by blocking the hand that the United States attempts to play toward an intervention in Central America and the Caribbean, the people of the United States would, at the same time, be gaining an important victory for their own democracy. As a consequence, the United States would gain some greatness while in turn it would lose considerably, he averred, if it makes the critical error of intervening in our territories.

Hart also warned that the more reactionary groups in the United States should know that this time the Latin American peoples will know how and be able to not only defend themselves but achieve the victory like that achieved by Cuba in Giron or like the one achieved by the Vietnamese. The Cuban minister of culture also said that men of culture believe that the insanity of a thermonuclear war can be averted, but that in order to achieve this, the widest and most intensive mobilization of all peaceloving forces is needed. Likewise, he said that this requires the very mobilization of the forces which in the United States are heirs of the ideals put forth by Abraham Lincoln. And he stressed that the final triumph of American democracy, facing the forces of obscurantism and war, will be one of the most extraordinary achievements in human history.

In his address, Hart pointed out first that the intellectuals, as they had previously demonstrated in the meeting for the sovereignty of the peoples of our America held last September in Havana, have a marked willingness to unite in the struggle against imperialism and the fascist regimes; and, he added, they also show great interest in beginning a constructive dialogue with the intellectuals of North America, and through them, with the people of the United States.

GRANMA 5 MARCH EDITORIAL ON REAGAN OAS SPEECH

FL051758 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text of 5 March GRANMA editorial entitled: "A Sad Task: Lying About the Work They Have Been Unable To Destroy"]

[Text] The indespensible and all powerful Mr Reagan is not daunted by insignificant things such as respect for the truth and the recognition of reality. A strange combination of self-sufficiency and atrocious ignorance allows him to overlook these disturbing details and to make the most singular and ridiculous statements in the guise of a person who knows what he saying.

Thus, for example, in his speech to the OAS, analyzing the perspectives for political, economic and social development of the Caribbean Basin countries, Reagan did not hesitate to affirm that in this zone the dark future is represented by the poverty and repression of Castro's Cuba.

The Yankee President, likewise, expounded on an alleged failure of communism at the world level. Since he seemed to be serious about all he said, it must be assumed that Reagan actually believes what his advisors write for him. This requires that he be given a complete answer.

There are two social regimes in the world. One of these systems, at the world level and according to careful, even conservative figures of reputable international organizations, is the reason that there are 570 million starving [people], 800 million adult illiterates, 1.5 billion human beings without medical care, 1.3 billion with an income of less than $90, 1.7 billion with a life expectancy of less than 60 years, 1.03 billion living in inadequate housing, 260 million children who do not attend any school, and more than 1.1 billion unemployed. Curiously, the one responsible for all this is not the "failed" communist system to which Mr Reagan refers, but capitalism. Nor is communism the reason for the abyss of underdevelopment and poverty in which the underdeveloped world is submerged, nor for the deep crisis through which the international economy is passing, nor for the devastating wars which have scourged the world, nor for the insane arms race which today threatens the future, nor for colonialism, nor for neocolonialism, nor for racism, nor for the anarchical destruction of basic human resources, nor for the alarming deterioration of the environment; all of these items are the successes of the capitalist system which Mr Reagan defends with so much originality.

On the other hand, socialism is a new regime on the historical scene. It has not been without its insufficiencies, difficulties and even errors. It has had to be born, grow and develop itself in the midst of a fierce encirclement and constant attack by its enemies. The socialist revolutions moreover, have to date triumphed in some of the poorest and most impoverished areas of the world and it has required colossal efforts to eliminate poverty and cultural deprivation inherited from the past. However, nothing that capitalism has ever achieved can be compared to what socialism has achieved in the last 65 years in the Soviet Union and in the rest of the socialist community, including Cuba.

Never in such a short time has so much been done for economic development, education, culture, attention to the basic needs of man and insuring true political and human rights. Socialism has achieved this without exploiting other peoples, without looting their natural resources or imposing a neocolonialist yoke. It has achieved this only through the effort and sweat of its own workers.

Now we will look at what the "failure of communism" has brought to Cuba in these 23 years, despite what seven U.S. administrations have done to block our development using an impressive inventory of counterrevolutionary measures, which go from armed invasion and total economic blockade to biological warfare and to confessed and proven attempts to kill Cuban leaders using the most sophisticated resources which science and advanced technology can place at the service of crime.

Until the revolution deprived Cuba of the doubtful privilege of belonging to the group of Central American and Caribbean countries with positive opportunities, according to the classification made by Mr Reagan in his speech, the capitalist, neocolonialist regime had already demonstrated completely in our lands some of its newest successes: the open looting of national wealth; the most blatant exploitation of working masses through the double yoke of national capitalists and the U.S. monopolies; the expropriation of land and its concentration in the hands of national and foreign landowners; the grossest racial discrimination; the distortion of national culture; the establishment, under the shadow of cannons and bayonets of the marines, of corrupt and dictatorial political regimes. These were the main marks of the exploitative system which, under the strictest control of foreign capital and subordination to the political interests of U.S. imperialism, reigned in our country until 1959.

Some examples in the economic field which unequivocably illustrate the neocolonial domination of the United States over Cuba and its consequences were: hunger, injustice, lack of culture, frightening poverty, abandonment, robbery, brutal repression, political and moral degradation. The triumphs of capitalism in our country together with other causes made the triumph of the Cuban revolution inevitable. This was a revolution which no one exported to us, because no revolution can be exported. Today the Cuban revolution has been fully consolidated in the political, economic and social areas. We are infinitely stronger than at any other time. Our achievements in many fields are recognized and appreciated worldwide. Thousands of visitors and persons representing various institutions and organizations can check this out each year on the spot. Now the olympic Mr Reagan returns to the subject of the failure of the revolution.

What is happening is simply that the imperialists have no other recourse than to lie about what they have been unable to destroy. By decreeing that these grapes are green, they reveal the indignation, anger and impotence of those who have had to taste the bitterness of defeat in all their anti-Cuban adventures. Of course, we are not going to deny that economic and military aggression have exercised enormous influence on the development of our revolutionary process, especially during its first decade. The country, for many years, had to devote most of its energy to constant defense mobilizations and the chain of aggressions which, with the revolutionary triumph, imperialism unleashed against our country.

Reagan expressed in his speech the concern the problem of the immigrants, from Cuba and from other countries, poses for the Yankee Government. To show the hypocrisy and pharisaism this involves it must be recalled that it was the United States which was the cause of this problem. It was the Yankee Government which opened wide the doors to Batista's killers and thieves who were dislodged from power on 1 January 1959. Following their steps, the landowners and exploiters, opposed to the revolutionary changes, found sanctuary there. Then putting into play the high standard of living which they had attained at the cost of spoiling entire continents, the leaders of the United States devoted themselves to trying to deprive Cuba of doctors, professionals, teachers and technicians in order to destroy the revolution.

They criminally used the problem of illegal departures from the country and incited them as a means of dirty propaganda in order to try to pressure and blackmail the revolution. When Cuba finally, without any fear, accepted the challenge and opened the doors to all who wanted to go to the Yankee paradise, the imperialists got the boomerang back in their faces, which they had launched against our fatherland. They had no other recourse than to take charge of the scum, the lumpen and the disenfranchised who were already their only allies in this land of worthy men and women.

Perhaps no other country can exhibit the privilege of having at one's side the garbage truck which picks up all the filth which has no place in a revolutionary society. The internationalist help of the countries of the socialist community and especially of the USSR fended off the economic strangulation of the Cuban revolution. For a long time the national economy suffered extreme tension in relation to productive resources. Nevertheless, our people, with abnegation, sacrifice and the spirit of initiative, withstood the difficulties, defeated them and have laid firm foundations which guarantee our present and future progress.

Despite enormous difficulties and our own shortcomings, the Cuban socialist economy has achieved significant advances which, under the present conditions, constitute a higher point of take-off in the efforts for the economic building of socialism in our country. Even institutions adopted by U.S. imperialism itself have had to accept this undeniable reality. According to the figures of the World Bank, from 1960 to 1979 in Cuba the gross national product grew at an average rate of 4.4 percent per capita per year. In Latin America only Brazil, where the multinational companies made fabulous investments in search of profits, also fabulous, was higher with 4.8 percent. This includes Venezuela, which despite its petroleum had a rate of only 2.8 percent, and Argentina with relatively high industrial development which achieved 2.4 percent, located far behind the rhythm of growth of the Cuban economy. In the case of the Central American area, the rates varied from the scant 0.3 percent annually of Haiti to the 3.4 percent of Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. As an illustrative figure which can also serve to characterize the insignificance of the additional $350 million requested by Mr Reagan for some Central American and Caribbean countries, we can point to the amount of some industrial investments which Cuba has carried out in recent years or which are now in the process of being implemented; indicating that due to not including the financing rates of interest these are actually considerably greater: textile complex of Santiago de Cuba 190 million; textile enterprise of Santa Clara, 142 million; Wajay spinning factory, 125 million; mechanical complex of Holguin, 145 million; Cienfuegos cement factory, 167 million; Punta Gorda nickel plant, 600 million pesos.

What is really important is the really just and human form with which the wealth is distributed in our country, which is after all, the absolute owner of its natural and human resources. And this is not all, a decisive element in the solution of the social problems of the whole society is the quality of life. In our society a cleaner life is developed, a more human life which can be characterized by the phrase of Marti: With all and for the good of all. Man is the brother of man, not the wolf. We have eliminated social scars which characterized the capitalist regime. Prostitution has disappeared, as have gambling and drug trafficking. Our society has one of the lowest levels of common crime in the world. And in these matters it is not the U.S. society which serves as an example for the countries of our America. This is recognized in the United States itself, by all the institutions and individuals which are concerned with the growing deterioration of morals in that society. And they are right. A society based on the zeal for personal profit, above all else, will inevitably engender these regrettable and alienating social phenomenon.

This dedication to the solution of the problems of human beings is expressed in the most widely varied spheres of social life, as for example in sports where mass participation constitutes an important element in the integral training of the new generations and whose development receives priority attention. Therefore, it is not by accident that when the colonial government of Puerto Rico said that it was unable to host the 14th Central American and Caribbean Games due to the economic crisis through which the free associated state was passing and the stingy financial aid which it put up with in the colonized mentalities of the hired yes-men of the Yankee colonial regime, Cuba agreed to host these games, despite the little time available to prepare the necessary facilities for their successful realization.

The Cuban revolution has resolved the problem of unemployment, a true social scourge which strikes not only Latin American peoples, generally underdeveloped, but also extends to the most developed capitalist countries themselves. We have guaranteed the right to work. In our country we fulfill the principle of equal pay for equal work, without discrimination of any type. The basis which supported racial discrimination and discrimination against women has disappeared. Today the Cuban workers are not only assured remunerative employment, one of the most basic human rights, which the capitalist system constantly violates, but also the social security system now in effect in Cuba guarantees to all workers a dignified old age in which society recognizes, morally and materially, a person's previous labor contribution.

In spite of the brutal economic blockade imposed by the United States, of the need to assign enormous economic resources to defense, of the adverse situation in the capitalist international market -- the drop in trade from 1975 to 1979 amounted to 53 percent for Cuba, the highest in the area excepting the Dominican Republic -- and of our own deficiencies, this brief summary demonstrates the notable achievements of the Cuban revolution in the field of economic and social development.

We are not rich in the way that wealth is understood by the Yankee monopolies and their representatives in power in the U.S. political scene. But, our nation has been the first one on the hemisphere to liberate itself from Yankee domination, the first one to undertake a new path toward a superior form of economic and social life, the first one on our continent to follow the path of socialism. We have not retreated. We have not made a single concession to imperialism. We have not renounced a single one of our revolutionary principles.

Sad and despicable is the task left to Mr Reagan and his governing team, to slander the work of the revolution which they could not destroy. After 23 years, with so much history in between, with such a proud and invincible people on this land who will never bow their heads before the hated Yankee yoke, his words make no more sense than a nostalgic and impotent barking at the moon.

HAVANA ANNOUNCES VISIT BY GUINEA-BISSAU PRESIDENT

FL061228 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Joao Bernardo Vieira, secretary general of the African Party for Independence in Guinea-Bissau and president of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, will soon arrive in our country on an official and friendly visit. The high-level delegation of that fraternal African country is coming to our country in response to an invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers. With this visit, the ties of friendship, brotherhood and solidarity uniting the two peoples will grow still stronger.

JAGAN OPPOSES SUPPORT FOR REAGAN'S PROPOSAL

FL061855 Bridgetown CANA in English 1515 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 6 Mar (CANA) -- Guyana's opposition leader Dr Cheddi Jagan has reacted strongly to a call from Antigua's Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird for Caribbean trade unionists to support the U.S. proposals under the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI). In a prepared statement, Dr Jagan said: "Mr Bird should remember the old dictum; those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it."

According to Dr Jagan, one of the principal reasons for the present impasse in the Caribbean was the collaborationist role of the majority of the Caribbean trade union and political leaders in the late 1940's when the "cold war" first surfaced in the region.

Dr Jagan declared that "the Caribbean Basin Initiative is a rehearsed version of the 'Operation Bootstrap' Puerto Rican model which has become totally discredited and which together with the world capitalist recession is responsible for the present grave social, political and economic problems of the Caribbean Basin countries."

Dr Jagan said Mr Bird's position was rather strange as not too long ago he had said that to pull up the boots, straps were needed. Now it seems he is prepared to accept a rope around the necks of the workers."

According to Dr Jagan: "It is a disservice to the Caribbean people to call on the trade unions to back the CBI."

DPRK PREMIER YI CHONG-OK ARRIVES FOR VISIT

FL090201 Bridgetown CANA in English 0032 GMT 9 Mar 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 8 Mar (CANA) -- The premier of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mr Yi Chong-ok, arrived in Guyana this afternoon, for a one-week official visit which he said will "further cement relations between Guyana and my country." Guyana Prime Minister Dr Ptolmey Reid and senior government officials were at the airport to meet the North Korean official, who inspected a guard of honour mounted by the Guyana defence force before driving to Georgetown in a motorcade.

A civic reception was held at the city hall at which the premier was presented with a symbolic golden key to the garden city. In her brief remarks before presenting the key, Mayor Mavis Benn said that the physical distances which separate the two countries, Korea and Guyana, did not affect the quality of relations which they have enjoyed since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1974.

The premier said that the people of Guyana, "under the leadership of President Forbes Burnham have consistently supported the Korean people in our struggle for independent and peaceful reunification."

The premier said that a significant step in relations between Guyana and Korea had been made when President Burnham visited that country five years ago.

He added that the Korean Embassy in Georgetown said during the visit, there would be wide ranging views, discussions between the leaders of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) and the Korea premier on matters of friendship and cooperation.

BOUTERSE COMMENTS ON RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE

PM051229 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 25 Feb 82 p 4

[Frans van Klaveren dispatch: "Authority Will Rest With National Council"]

[Excerpts] Paramaribo, 25 Feb -- The supreme authoritative body in Suriname will be a national assembly, which will also have authority over the army. The date when this body will take office is as yet unknown. The army as a block will not form part of the assembly. Nor will there be room for the old political parties.

This was announced by Commander Lt Col Deysi Bouterse in an interview with Netherlands journalists in Paramaribo. The assembly will be made up of representatives of functional groups such as trade unions and possibly also the churches, and of representatives of the district councils, which are elected indirectly by the people's committees. The possible size of the assembly is still being studied. "It will at any rate be big enough for the people to be properly represented by it," Commander Deysi Bouterse said.

He added: "This plan must go through. Through it we will simply have to make sure that we do not return to the old political situation before 25 February [1980]." If the assembly comes about, it will mean an end to the army's intervention, Bouterse said. "The army cannot continue intervening endlessly." He thought that there was little likelihood that the army would act to make many policy corrections in the period up to the formation of the assembly, but "the military authorities do have the task of monitoring the political process."

Bouterse said that Suriname's course would be socialist, and that its shape would be independent of the revolutionary process. The people would be allowed to participate in this process, for "if the streets are full of [demonstrating] workers and peasants, if we are rejected, then we have no chance." Contact will be made with the Socialist International. "We do not take pride in many things," Bouterse said, "but we are proud that here in Suriname we are doing things differently, and the whole time we keep in mind the reality of the Surinamese situation so that we can reach our goal."

When asked whether the people should not also be allowed to express their views of the course mapped out hitherto, Bouterse answered: "A referendum is worth considering. But at the present time we have no need of one." Bouterse was unable to say whether Suriname would have a merely ceremonial president or whether a form of collective presidency is being sought, because the matter is still being looked into. Bouterse said that he had been disturbed by reports in a Netherlands newspaper that he had interrogated former President Chin A Sen after the publication of a draft government declaration in the same Netherlands newspaper. He said that he did not know how this sort of "nonsense" could be published.

Reports that Suriname is falling deeper into the grasp of Cuba have no foundation, Bouterse said. "A completely wrong picture. It is true that we have established ties with Cuba, for there are areas where we can learn from them. But we will not be importing ideologies, -- sugar and cigars at most."

When asked whether the army's role would be finished when the new national assembly began its work, Bouterse replied: "Its role will be different." He pointed out that it would of course be possible for army officers to be members of the national assembly as individuals, provided they had passed through the earlier phases from people's committees to district councils. "The people's committees are completely free in the choice of their representative. If they do not want an officer, he will not be delegated," Bouterse said.

Looking back over the last 2 years, Bouterse said: "Much good has been done; many mistakes have been made. If mistakes had not been made, this would have meant that we were standing still. We have seen to it that Surinamers have been given greater confidence in their country. In spite of the revolution, growing numbers of Surinamers want to return to the country."